

SBC To Note Birthdays, Condu

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MIAMI BEACH (BP)—Amidst bell ringing and torch waving in observance of two birthdays, some 16,000 registered "messengers" from across the nation will gather here, June 10-12, to conduct the business of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

The 118th annual session of the 130-year-old SBC will celebrate the nation's bicentennial and the 50th anniversary of its multi-million-dollar Cooperative Program unified budget, which has played a major role in projecting it from a small, rural-based, southern body to the nation's largest Protestant-evangelical denomination.

The SBC has 12.5-million-members in 34,734 churches throughout all 50 states and conducts foreign

mission work in 83 countries through its Foreign Mission Board, the world's largest missionary sending agency.

As of May 27, the Miami Beach Convention Bureau had assigned 5,500 rooms for the convention, with many others, a spokesman said, making their own arrangements. Plenty of rooms were still available, a convention bureau spokesperson said.

Before the main convention gets underway on Tuesday morning, June 10, several major auxiliary meetings, with several thousand in attendance, will get underway Sunday night, June 9, and conclude June 9.

The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and Woman's Mission-

ary Union (WMU), SBC auxiliary, plan a joint session Sunday night in North Hall and will separate during morning, afternoon and evening sessions, Monday.

At the WMU conference, Mrs. R. L. (Marie) Mathis, national WMU president who has served 13 years in the office on two different occasions, will step down and a successor will be elected.

Side Conferences
Other major side conferences, June 8-9, include the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference (at Central Baptist Church, Miami, on Sunday and the Miami Beach Hyatt House on Monday) and the Southern Baptist Religious Education Conference at the Hotel Seville.

Seemingly, when the main SBC session gets underway, no divisive issues loom on the horizon, and SBC President Jaroy Weber, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., hopes the convention will not debate "insignificant issues."

A Committee of Seven, appointed last year to study the SBC Executive Committee (which operates SBC business in certain matters between sessions) and a possible name change for the SBC, will recommend, on the basis of extensive opinion surveys among Southern Southern Baptists, no name change be considered at this time.

The committee, chaired by C. R. Daley, editor of Kentucky Bap-

tists' Western Recorder, Middletown, Ky., will also inform the convention of its progress on the Executive Committee study.

Weber said he hopes people will leave the SBC annual session — built around the theme, "Let Christ's Freedom Ring" — with a greater compassion for the spiritual and physical needs of the world. "World conditions are so serious that we can't debate insignificant issues," said Weber, who will deliver his presidential address, Tuesday night, June 10.

World hunger and disaster relief will likely surface as a topic for discussion during the three-day gathering in Miami Beach.

SBC state and national agencies and individual Southern Baptists

have shown a growing concern about world hunger and Southern Baptists' ability to respond to various kinds of disaster throughout the world.

Role of Women
The role of women in the church was an issue during the past two annual sessions of the convention in Portland and Dallas. No actions on the subject have been proposed thus far this year, convention leaders say.

Other business will involve a series of recommendations on by-law changes, including a suggestion that at least one year should elapse before a person is eligible for election to a board or agency after serving two previous terms (Continued on page 2)



AT THE WHITE HOUSE—Jaroy Weber, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, rings the replica of the Liberty Bell at ceremonies held at the White House, May 28. W. O. Vaught, Little Rock, Ark., presided at the service on the White House lawn near the north portico. Weber spoke, Dr. Edwin Young led in prayer and Dr. Baker James Cauthen pronounced the benediction. Two assistants to the President received the Baptist delegation in President Ford's absence. The President departed for Europe three hours before the Baptists arrived at the White House.

Baptists Ring Liberty Bell At White House

WASHINGTON, D. C. (BP)—Few people paid attention as 25 Southern Baptists, a few tourists and two President aides gathered for a bicentennial-related ceremony on the White House grounds — that is until the bell was rung.

The event featured a replica of the Liberty Bell, on loan to Southern Baptists from the State of Mississippi, and highlighted 200 years of Baptists contributions in this country.

Southern Baptist Convention President Jaroy Weber of Lubbock, Tex., addressed the gathering, calling the bell the "symbol of the challenge our denomination faces to be on the cutting edge of renewal and revival."

The bell is being transported to the Southern Baptist Convention (June 10-12) and will be rung in each of the opening sessions. On loan to Southern Baptists, the bell is owned by the State of Mississippi. (Continued on page 3)

By John W. Baker
WASHINGTON (BP)—In spite of rumors to the contrary, there is no movement afoot in the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or in Congress to re-



Mrs. Maurice Clayton, wife of the pastor of Hillcrest Church, Jackson, Miss., is president of the Southern Baptist Ministers' Wives Conference, which meets June 10 at Central Baptist Church, Miami, Fla.

move existing religious broadcasting from either radio or television.

However, the FCC will be considering a petition which, if accepted, could have an effect on religious broadcasting in the future. The facts are rather simple.

On Dec. 5, 1974 Jeremy D. Lansom and Lorenzo W. Milam filed a petition with the FCC asking that it issue administrative rulings which would prohibit the assignment of any additional educational television or FM radio licenses to

individuals or groups which would air only religion or quasi-religious programs.

In so requesting, the petitioners were acting solely on their own behalf and were not representing any organized groups.

In this petition, which the commission designated as RM 2483, it was argued that because there are a limited number of channels available to the listening and viewing public those channels should serve the interests of the broadest based public possible.

More Time Asked For Executive Committee Study

MIAMI BEACH (BP)—The Southern Baptist Convention's Committee of Seven, named to study and evaluate the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee in light of By-law 9 of the convention, will make a progress report to the 1975 convention here, June 10-12, and ask

for another year to formulate a final report.

The committee feels the study plan it is pursuing requires another year for formulation, said its chairman, C. R. Daley, editor of Kentucky Baptists' Western Recorder. He said the committee's tentative schedule calls for completion of the first draft of its report in the fall.

Daley said the report would be disseminated to Southern Baptists "in plenty of time for careful study" before the 1976 meeting in Norfolk, Va.

The study plan includes a view of the history of the Executive Committee since its beginning in 1917, an examination of all former studies of the Executive Committee and an analysis and evaluation of the present structure and functions of the Executive Committee, Daley said.

In doing its work, the study committee conducted interviews with a wide variety of Baptist leaders well acquainted with the

It was asserted that it is contrary to the general public interest to have any additional educational television or FM radio channels devoted exclusively to religious programming.

The petition has generated a strong negative reaction among many people. Some of these have been exposed to only a part of the facts; many have received garbled information.

However, many of those who had their information correct have not known how to make their opposition known to the government officials who will make the final decisions on the petition.

The following may make the process clearer.

Though there is no action on the matter pending in Congress, the members serve as an effective conduit of opinion to the regulatory commissions. Letters to representatives are effective if they contain correct information and a sincere request for help.

The Administrative Procedures Act establishes the steps which an

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Young Women Are Coming Into WMU, Says National President Mrs. Mathis

By James Lee Young
WACO, Tex. (BP)—Young women, ages 18-29, are coming into Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, in growing numbers, a trend that Mrs. R. L. Mathis, national WMU president sees as encouraging.

Mrs. Mathis sees WMU of the future as including even greater numbers of younger women.

"It's not that we have any intention of showing any neglect or letting down in our promotion for all women, but we simply have not had in our organization, young women, 18-29," said Mrs. Mathis, who is completing her second full term as WMU president and is therefore leaving office this summer. Six years is a full tenure of office for the WMU presidency.

Her successor will be elected in the Monday morning (June 9) session of the WMU meeting in Mi-

ami Beach. The new president will be nominated by a committee composed of the presidents of the state WMU organizations and then elected by the general assembly of WMU.

"In the last three or four years, we have had a real growth in enlisting young women of that age.

And so, because of that, we are featuring a young woman in each of the WMU sessions in Miami Beach (June 8-9)," Mrs. Mathis said.

The growth over the last few years is attributed by Mrs. Mathis to, "their realization that here is an organization that is really

worthwhile.

"I think they also realize," Mrs. Mathis continued, "as the older women have realized all along, that here is an organization through which they (young women) have an opportunity to grow and find places of leadership."

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Minnie Pearl, Brooks Hays—Two Friends Meet

By James Lee Young
NASHVILLE (BP)—Minnie Pearl of Grand Ole Opry fame and Brooks Hays of Southern Baptist and U. S. Congress fame were simply "friends who just never met before," in his words.

They met here for the first time during a star-studded banquet of more than 900 leading persons

from Nashville's music industry, business, civic and religious community. The event sponsored by the Nashville Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, was the Fourth Annual Brotherhood Award Banquet.

Such famous persons as country music king Roy Acuff and country musicians Pee Wee King, Eddy Arnold and Danny Davis of the Nashville Brass attended. They joined former Tennessee governor Winfield Dunn, the master of ceremonies, in applauding Hays' homespun humor and the many and outstanding contributions to the "brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God" of Mrs. Henry Cannon (Minnie Pearl).

Minnie Pearl was given the Christian-Jewish conference's Annual National Human Relations Award for advancing brotherhood and championing social and economic justice for citizens of all religious beliefs, racial, economic and cultural backgrounds.

This was her night. The guests came to pay tribute to Miss Pearl, a United Methodist.

Convention President, made the event more memorable with his anecdotes and warm manner.

Hays' stories prompted Miss Pearl to say, "You are probably one of the funniest people in the world."

He told about his appointment to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) directorship by the late President Eisenhower in 1959, prompting a Mississippi editor to write, "Baptists now have access to the world's largest baptismal pool."

Hays said his father was once asked whether he would prefer his son to be president of the United States or of the Southern Baptist Convention. The former congressman's father said he preferred his son to be president of the United States since "He's not smart enough to be president of the Southern Baptist Convention."

Noting the time allotted for his address, Hays commented, "If I was in charge, I'd give Minnie Pearl her award, sing the Doxology and go home."

Seriously, Hays said in today's world, "there is no immunity for any of us. We need a prayerful approach to life that God will protect us all. We must recognize

evils and acknowledge our humanity and exalt a common faith."

Citing the nation's bicentennial, Hays said Americans ought to recognize their Judeo-Christian heritage and admonished, "If we don't raise our voices as religiousists, the voice of religion will be ignored," during the nation's

birthday celebrations.

Hays, a board of directors member of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, then paid tribute to Mrs. Cannon — Minnie Pearl, saying they "were friends who just never met before."

Minnie Pearl was introduced by

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BROOKS AND MINNIE — that is, Brooks Hays and Grand Ole Opry's Minnie Pearl meet for the first time at a VIP reception of the Nashville Chapter, National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ). Miss Pearl (Mrs. Henry Cannon of Nashville) was honoree at the NCCJ's banquet and Hays, former U.S. Congressman from Arkansas who also served two terms as Southern Baptist Convention president, was keynote speaker. (BP) PHOTO BY James Lee Young

Five Months' Cooperative Program Shows Increase

Cooperative Program receipts for the first five months of 1975 through the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board have amounted to \$2,745,180, which is \$164,069 more than for the same period of last year.

"While this is \$4,320 below our budget for the first five months, it is a 6.4 per cent increase over last year's total through May, and this is very gratifying," said Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary - treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

"Mississippi Baptists continue to demonstrate their concern for a world filled with problems and anxiety and continue to take action to help meet the needs of the world," he added. "Christian missionaries carrying the gospel of Christ across our nation and around the world do more for humanity and for the cause of peace than can be measured."

The Mississippi Cooperative Program income for May was

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SBC To Note Birthdays...

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on another board or agency; and a suggestion that the Committee on Boards give first consideration to those primarily involved in local church work when selecting members of SBC boards.

The latter recommendation would not preclude use of denominational persons (such as associational and state convention employees) on boards but would ask that first consideration go to persons active in programs of the local church, such as staff members and laypersons.

Charles Colson, convicted Nixon presidential aide, who testified during the Watergate trials to a life-changing experience with Jesus Christ, will speak to the Monday night, June 9, session of the SBC Pastors' Conference at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

Two Vietnamese Baptists, Mrs. Le This Ngoc Lang and her husband, Trinh Ngoc Thanh, will

speak at the Monday morning WMU session. Both were Baptist leaders in their country and escaped the Communist takeover.

Former Miss America Vonda Kay Van Dyke, a performer and active Christian witness, will appear on the SBC program Wednesday night, June 11. She replaces Anita Bryant, who was announced earlier.

Among others on the three-day program besides Weber, who is expected to be re-elected to a second one-year term as president, and Miss Van Dyke, are Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., who will preach the convention sermon on Wednesday morning; entertainer Jerry Clower of Yazoo City, Miss., a Southern Baptist deacon, who will deliver a major address Thursday morning; and former SBC president, W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, who will speak Thursday

afternoon.

Mississippi Bell

Each session will open with the ringing of a replica of the Liberty Bell, commemorating the nation's bicentennial. Before the convention, the bell, loaned to the SBC by the state of Mississippi, went on a historic route to Baptist sites in Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., Richmond, Raleigh and Savannah. Stops along the way included rallies and remembrances of Baptist contributions to the nation's first 200 years.

The convention will also feature emphasis on the Cooperative Program, which has produced nearly \$1.6 billion for state and national SBC needs since its inception in 1925. This is in addition to the billions more retained by local churches for their needs during this 50 year period.

Some 1,200 youthful runners, in the SBC's Royal Ambassador (RA) program for boys operated

by the SBC Brotherhood Commission, will relay a lighted torch 1,280 miles from Memphis to Miami Beach during May and June in celebration of the Cooperative Program 50th anniversary.

The torch, symbolizing the gospel spread in the United States and 83 foreign countries around the world by the Cooperative Program, was lighted May 13 in Memphis, birthplace of the Cooperative Program, and carried in relays to the convention.

It will be presented to the SBC messengers June 10 in a special feature on the Cooperative Program the opening night of the convention during the SBC Stewardship Commission's report.

On a sadder note, messengers will mourn the death of Charles King, a Kentucky Baptist pastor, who died during his term as second vice president of the SBC. King was the first black national SBC officer in the convention's history.



Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — Taxpayers conscientiously opposed to participation in war could elect to have their income, estate, and gift tax payments spent for non-military purposes under a bill introduced in the House. H.R. 5804 calls for creation of "World Peace Tax Fund."

NEW YORK (RNS) — Did an ecclesiastical court act properly in citing Episcopal President Bishop John M. Allin for contempt after he failed to personally testify in a trial in response to a subpoena? That question has become a new focus of attention and discussion for canon lawyers in the 3-million-member denomination.

NEW YORK (RNS) — A United Methodist agency responsible for ecumenical affairs has endorsed an affirmation on "mutual recognition of members" drafted in 1974 by the Consultation on Church Union. The denomination's Board of Global Ministries adopted a petition asking the 1976 General Conference, a lawmaking body, to accept the COCU document. COCU is made up of nine Protestant denominations exploring union.

ST. LOUIS (RNS) — Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann, 43, acting president of Concordia Seminary here since May 20, 1974, has been elected to the presidency of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod institution.

MINNEAPOLIS (EP) — More than 100,000 advance tickets—believed to be a record for any movie—were sold for Minneapolis-St. Paul area showings of the film, "No Hiding Place," which began May 2.

EDINBURG (EP) — Membership of the national Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) dropped another 27,000 last year to a total of 1,061,706.

WHEATON, Ill. (RNS) — A new world center to further evangelism will be established at Wheaton College here, bearing the name of Evangelist Billy Graham. Both Mr. Graham and his wife, the former Ruth Bell, graduated from the interdenominational Wheaton College in 1943. "This is not a

monument to me, but a dynamic center from which strategies and trained people will go around the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ," the evangelist said.

ATLANTIS CITY (RNS) — A massive program to combat hunger both at home and abroad was approved here by the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. It authorized spending \$1,725,000 on the program for the remainder of 1975. Plans to continue the effort until 1980 are underway.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — Rear Admiral John J. O'Connor, a 55-year-old Roman Catholic priest, has been assigned as prospective chief of Navy chaplains, and will succeed Rear Admiral Francis L. Garrett when he retires as chief of chaplains July 1.

NEW YORK (RNS) — A U.S. Jesuit expert on Latin America has charged that an extreme right-wing group of Roman Catholics has teamed up with the "Masonic, Fascistic" government of Uruguay to repress post Vatican II liberalizing tendencies in the Church.

LINCOLN, Eng. (RNS) — The sooner Anglicans work with Methodists the better, says Anglican Bishop Simon Phipps of the ancient Church of England diocese of Lincoln.

B. B. I. To Meet During SBC

Rev. Danny Gray, president of the National Chapter of Baptist Bible Institute alumni, announces that the group will meet in Miami during the Southern Baptist Convention. The meeting will be at 12 noon, Wednesday, June 11 at the Holiday Inn, Collins Avenue at 22nd Street. Miss Bertha Smith will be the guest speaker. Cost is \$4.00 per person, which includes the noon meal.

Bus Clinic Set

For North Mississippi Churches

A bus ministry and children's church conference for North Mississippi churches has been scheduled for June 30 and July 1 at Immanuel Church in Columbus.

Rev. Gardiner Gentry, bus director at Beth Haven Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., will lead the conference. He is the author of the book, *Bus Them In*.

The program will begin at 1:30 p.m. June 30 and conclude with the evening meeting on July 1. There will be morning, afternoon, and evening sessions.

"These sessions will be very practical in dealing with every aspect of starting, strengthening, and continuing a bus ministry and children's church," said Jerry E. File, pastor of the host church.

The charge for registration will be \$40 per church or \$10 per individual. The church is seeking to register in advance all who will be attending. The address is Immanuel Baptist Church, 503 18th Ave. North, Columbus 37011.

Limited housing is available for the earliest registrants, Rev. File indicated. A list of hotels and motels in the Columbus area can be obtained from the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, he added.



Southwestern Alumni To Meet At Seville

FORT WORTH, TEXAS — The Hotel Seville in Miami Beach will host Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's annual luncheon on June 11, during the week of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Former Southwesterners and friends will gather for the annual luncheon on Wednesday in the Alhambra Room of the Hotel Seville. The hotel, located at 29th Street and Collins Avenue, is within short walking distance or shuttle bus from the convention center.

The program will feature the honoring of 1975 Distinguished Alumni Bill Moyers, Milton Ferguson and William Reynolds.

Also to be presented will be a multi-media presentation on the seminary's Long Range Plan, "Impact 2000," and a "Report from the Hill" by Robert E. Naylor.

More Time Asked

(Continued from page 1) policy and procedures of the Executive Committee and also invited all interested persons to communicate their views to the study committee, Daley said.

"An encouraging number of written and oral statements have been received," he said.

The committee said it feels any final observations or recommendations to the Southern Baptist Convention, based upon its study, should be made only after "very careful deliberation of the results of the research."

The committee has not had time to complete such a careful study and therefore will present a progress report and request one additional year for its task, Daley said.

The Committee of Seven was also asked to study the possibility of a name change for the convention. This part of the assignment has been completed and a final report will be submitted in Miami Beach.

As has already reported, the committee, which conducted broad-based opinion surveys among Southern Baptists, will suggest that the convention's name should not be changed at this time.

FCC Will Not Eliminate Religious Broadcasting

(Continued from page 1) administrative agency must follow in determining what its regulations will contain.

The staff of a regulatory commission conducts a study of the requests made in petitions which are received.

After study the staff may make one of three recommendations to the full commission.

(1) It may recommend a set of proposed regulations, which, if the commission approves them, must be published in the Federal Register. Opportunities must then be accorded to the opposition to make its case. Then revised rules are issued. The rules have the binding effect of law.

(2) The staff may recommend that a "notice of inquiry" be published in the Federal Register asking for further public input into the rule making process. After the staff has considered these new ideas, it will either recommend rules to the commission, or:

(3) The staff can recommend that the requests in the petition be

At Work In Colombia

Barranquilla, a bustling industrial port city of almost 1,000,000 people and located on the Caribbean coast of Colombia, is many times referred to as "The Golden Door of Colombia." With the fresh tropical fruits and palm trees, year-round summertime temperatures, seabreezes off the Caribbean, and the gaiety of the "Costeno," Barranquilla leaves behind much of the traditional Spanish culture and takes on a flavor inherited from its tropical neighbors.

It is in our city of Barranquilla that perhaps one of the most diversified ministries of the Foreign Mission Board is depicted. A composite would reveal a Baptist Hospital with two surgeons, four journeymen (2 nurses, a lab technician and a secretary), one prosthetist and an electrician who serves as maintenance engineer of the hospital. Apart from the hospital, there is a specialist in camp recreation as well as a music specialist. An extension of the International Baptist Seminary of Cali (Colombia) is operated in Barranquilla with missionaries as well as nationals serving on the faculty. A field evangelist is expected to arrive in April, 1975. This variety of ministries is made possible and is maintained entirely by the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists.

Commercialists have long capitalized on the attraction of tourists to the "Golden Door of Colombia." But to Southern Baptists, it represents a "golden door of opportunity" — the opportunity to win, to minister, and to train. It is only because of the response of Southern Baptists to THE GREAT COMMISSION that this missionary endeavor is made possible. Because of your love, prayer, and concern, the fields that are "white and ready to harvest" have not become darkened by complacency and indifference.

Bob G. Magee
Barranquilla, Colombia

Duck Resigns

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with the board for nearly 18 years, will be joined at the center by his wife, the former Lavonia Redden of Abilene, Tex., presently a counselor in the Arlington Independent School District.

From his base in Arlington, Duck has assisted the board's departmental secretary and staff in interpreting foreign missions through promotional efforts and the ministries of furloughing missionaries. His primary relationship has been to furloughing missionaries living west of the Mississippi River.

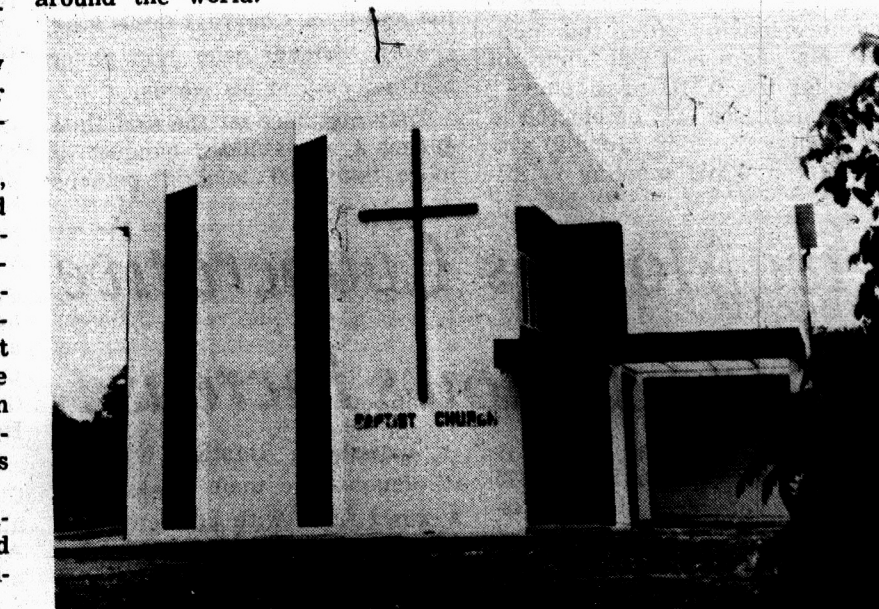
Five Months

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\$519,335, which was a 2.5 per cent increase over the May 1974 figure of \$506,850.

The annual budget for 1975 of \$6.6 million calls for an average monthly income of \$550,000.

The Cooperative Program is the Southern Baptist Convention voluntary unified budget system of financing programs and missions causes in the state, throughout the nation, and around the world.



First Church Built In Sarawak

The first Baptist church ever erected in Sarawak, Malaysia, an area of over one-million people, was dedicated recently. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris, Southern Baptist missionaries, serve as pastor and advisers for this church, made possible by local funds and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Planning for the church was begun in June 1970 by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby D. Evans, Southern Baptist missionaries. FMB photo.



Elkins

Hensley

Hollis

Bergen

Christian Sex Education Workshop Set

The Christian Sex Education Workshop sponsored by the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention, will be held at the Baptist Building, Jackson, June 28 and 27. Attendance will be limited to 125 and will be financed by registration fees of the participants. Harry Hollis, Jr., Director, Family and Special Moral Concerns, Christian Life Commission, SBC; Harold Bergen, Consultant, Family Ministry Section, Church Administration Department, BSB; Thomas Elkin, Clinical Psychologist, Jackson; and J. Clark Hensley, Executive Director, Christian Action Commission, will be the resource persons for the program.

The purpose of the workshop will be to train pastors, church staff and other church leaders in providing resources for parents in Christian sex education.

Among the topics to be discussed: The Biblical View of Human Sexuality, Responsible Christian Parenthood, When Should a Child Be Told About Sex?, Human Sexuality and Adolescence, The Family and the Growth of Moral Reasoning and Christian Sex Education and the Church.

A registration fee of \$5.00 should be sent to the Christian Action Commission, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, Ms. 39205. This will be refunded if attendance limitation has been reached upon receipt.

Curriculum, Article Writing Focus On Writers Workshop

NASHVILLE — A Writers Workshop, designed to offer practical training in curriculum and article writing, will be conducted at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, June 23-27, according to Eugene Chamberlain, manuscript analyst at the board.

"Participants will receive training in actual writing under direction and criticism," says Chamberlain. "They will be exposed to curriculum writing, article writing and other basic writing techniques. Each participant will work to develop skills in one or more of these selected areas."

According to Chamberlain, participants should be persons who desire to develop skills in writing articles for church-related publications or in doing curriculum writing for the board.

"In essence, the workshop is for any dedicated Christian who feels he has the potential of expressing his faith effectively through the printed word," he adds. "The workshop will have special value for persons who now have board assignments but who are relatively inexperienced in the writing ministry. Aspiring writers in the field of articles, whether freelance or assigned, will benefit from the workshops."

Attendance is not limited to Baptists, although non-Baptists

are not given curriculum writing assignments for board publications. However, articles by evangelical Christians of various denominations may be used by the board.

Melvin E. Lorentzen, associate professor of English at Wheaton (Ill.) College, will be the main lecturer and consultant. Lorentzen has written youth and adult curriculum materials for 15 years. Since 1963, he has conducted annual summer retreats for writers as well as many small groups in the Chicago, Ill., area.

Members of the board's editorial staff will discuss writing for curriculum periodicals and the types of manuscripts needed by the board.

The workshop is limited to 40 persons; registration must be made in advance. The \$20 registration fee, which includes materials and two luncheons, should accompany registration. If cancellation is made two weeks before the workshop, the fee will be returned. Participants should make their own lodging reservations; hotel information will be sent with confirmation of registration. For information concerning registration contact Eugene Chamberlain, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

Two Old Friends Meet

(Continued from page 1)

former Governor Dunn and opened with her world-famous "How-dee." Holding Minnie's hat aloft, Mrs. Cannon noted that Minnie Pearl has "no prejudices and no bitterness."

Speaking in her cultured, articulate, non-Minnie Pearl style, Mrs. Cannon recalled many of the great stars and friends who had worked with her over the years, citing the late Judge Hay of Grand Ole Opry fame, Acuff, King and Arnold.

"If people can be kind enough," she said, "to accept my mistakes and love you, it's a great world."

She first played the Opry on a

cold November night in 1940 and was brought on late, when "most of the people had gone to sleep" in Nashville's old War Memorial Building, where the Opry was then held.

Thirty-five years later, she is still making people laugh and trying to bring them together in God's family.

"Laughter," she said, "is God's hand on the shoulder of a troubled world. Thank God, he turned me around. I wanted to be a dramatic actress. He nudged me and said, 'Uh, uh, don't go this way.' 'And somewhere' she said, 'a laugh or two may ease the burden of an aching world.'"



Carey Awards Doctorate To Evangelist

Dr. Joseph M. Ernest, Jr., academic vice president of William Carey College, looks on as Rev. Tommy King, president of Alumni association, adjusts cap for Evangelist Jerry Mixon. Mr. Mixon delivered the baccalaureate address to the largest graduating class in the history of the college on May 17. History was made when the evangelist became the first male graduate to address the class and the first to receive an honorary degree. The evangelist continues to head his own organization of 25 directors relating evangelism to 17 different areas of fulltime work.

Is A Baptist Church A Democracy?

NOTE: This is the fourth in a six-part series written by Dr. James L. Sullivan, who has recently retired as president of the Sunday School Board. Dr. Sullivan is a native of Mississippi.

By James L. Sullivan

The question "Is a Baptist Church a democracy?" is a legitimate one. If there has to be a "yes" or "no" answer, the correct answer must be "no." Technically it is not.

To be sure, a Baptist church does operate by democratic processes in the carrying on of its business. Too, it makes its own decisions, refuses to delegate its management affairs to the deacons, board of directors, or anyone else. Still, there is a basic difference between a pure democracy and the way a Baptist church should and does handle its affairs.

A democracy is an excellent system for providing and promoting group thinking and action. It gives each person the right to speak. It encourages fair play. It operates by majority vote. It is refreshing to see how Baptists will fall into line and support a cause which has been discussed fully with no facts being held back and when all has been taken into account. Unless it is a matter of conscience, we can count on Baptist people to cooperate insofar as they are able when democratic principles are followed in getting answers that involve large bodies of people.

Democracy, however, often seeks the mere will of the majority. People in a democracy tend to look after their own rights, contend for them, even contest for them. Each works for his own welfare in a democracy. The majority prevails. If minorities are adequately provided for in a democracy, it must be through the thoughtful charity of the majority. When people lose out, they often lament that they can't have their way this time, but they will hope for better luck next time. And they move on.

But is this the way a Baptist church functions? It better not be. In a church where each member is trying to look out after his own interest and champion his own rights, a church not only fragments, it will fling apart. Fellowship is lost. Programs fail. Conflicts are inevitable and serious. So, a Baptist church must be more than a democracy. Each worker must be working for more than his own interest and cause, hoping that the majority will be favorable to his own personal views, but always unselfish in attitude and approach.

This is why we prefer to call our Baptist system of church government a "theodemocracy" instead of a democracy. It is a relatively new word in Webster's dictionary, even though the concept is as old as the New Testament and even older. A theodemocracy uses democratic processes. Never is it seeking the will of a majority who may be selfishly crusading for their own personal opinions and rights. A theodemocracy uses the same processes for group participation, cross-fertilization of ideas, and interaction of person to person in conversation or debate. The difference is that in a theodemocracy no one is seeking to have his own way. All are seeking diligently to find what the will of God is. They want God's purposes to prevail. That is where the "theo" part of the words comes in. It is a democracy under God. This makes all the difference in the world in the spirit in which business meetings are held.

Have you ever seen tempers flare in a Baptist business meeting? If so, such was prima facie evidence that the people were functioning as a democracy. That is really not the New Testament system. Christian people must work in seriousness and unselfishness in a theodemocracy, never in a spirit of selfishness. People are never threatened when they are seeking God's will and way. There is no occasion for one to lose his temper or to engage in loud debate. The very spirit in which debating is done is in an entirely different mood. There are no hidden agendas when a Baptist church business meeting functions properly in the Christian spirit and according to New Testament ideals.

Churches prosper when they discover and follow God's divine will. The majority vote alone is not enough, not even in a Baptist business meeting. The will of that majority must be in harmony with the purposes of God before a church can find its way and prosper in the fulfillment of God's purpose.

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Julius C. Thompson, Pastor
Ridgecrest, Jackson

This is a year of celebration for Southern Baptists — the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Cooperative Program. For half a century we have worked together through this channel in sharing Christ with a world in need. And the world's need for Christ is more imperative now than it was in 1925 when the Cooperative Program was born.

Across these years we have discovered that no individual church could begin to meet every need in all the world. But through the channel of the Cooperative Program, more than 13 million Southern Baptists can work together to meet many of these needs. There is great strength in unity of purpose and mission. The Cooperative Program is the trade-mark of our unity of purpose.

Even though we have worked together through the Cooperative Program for fifty years, there are still many persons in our churches who do not understand what it is and how it works. Perhaps you heard about the church in a southern town that was in the process of adopting its new budget. The members gathered in the auditorium to look over the proposed budget and ask questions about any part they did not understand. During the question and answer period a sober-minded man stood to his feet and pointed to that section entitled World Missions, saying, "I want to ask about this \$15,000 we've included for the Cooperative Program. When will we ever get this thing paid off? I've been a member of this church for twenty years and we've been paying on it every year."

Representing President Ford, who left the same morning for an overseas tour, was John E. Nidecker, special assistant to the President and 46 years a lay leader in the Episcopal church. Speaking for Ford, Nidecker said:

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(Continued from page 1)

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Yes, there are still many adults youth, and children in our churches who do not know what the Cooperative Program is and how it works. Rather than being something we pay off or pay into, it is a channel through which individual churches voluntarily contribute in sharing Christ with a world in need.

Even after fifty years of great success many people still do not understand how the Cooperative Program works.

Let me suggest that Vacation Bible School is one area of our work made possible by our gifts through the Cooperative Program. In 1974 there were 29,406 Vacation Bible Schools conducted in the Southern Baptist Con-

vention, with 3,354,681 persons enrolled. There were 66,946 public decisions made in these schools. A look at our own state reveals that in 1974 there were 1,

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Invol

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Southern Baptists In Miami Beach

Next week Southern Baptists will gather in Miami Beach for the 118th convention in their 130 year history. It is probably that about 15,000 messengers from all over the nation will be present for the meeting a smaller number than the more than 18,000 who assembled in Dallas last year. Miami Beach is further from the population center of the convention, and travel, especially by automobile, is a bit more restricted this year, as far as long distances are concerned. This still should be one of the larger conventions in the body's history.

There seem to be no major divisive issues confronting the convention. With the theme "Let Christ's Freedom Ring," the messengers will be thinking of how the churches can make a positive contribution to the nation's celebration of its bicentennial. Mississippi's Liberty Bell has been carried to Miami Beach for participation in the observance.

The most important decision of the convention appears to be its approval of its budget, which will be, as usual, the largest in its history. Unusual advances are made in this budget in an effort to project a program worthy of the birthday of the nation and of the fiftieth anniversary of the Cooperative Program. Inflation, enlarge programs, and fast growing needs have made it imperative that the convention have enlarged support of its work from the churches. It is seeking to project a program worthy of that support.

We anticipate that there will be special concern in the meeting about the present world mission situation and we are sure that the Foreign Missions Night program will bring reports concerning the crises which have appeared in some areas where our foreign mission work has been carried on. Nevertheless, the convention is expected to receive recommendations for continued advance in mission work, both in America and around the world. There never is a time for retrenchment when it is possible to advance, and most Southern Baptists are convinced that God still wants the convention to move forward in its world outreach.

Several minor by-law changes are proposed. Most of them are routine, but there is one which we question, and which we feel should be defeated. That one would require that pastors and church related people be given preference over denominational employees in board and committee membership. I think that this already is done in practice, and that it is not necessary for the convention to bind its committee on nominations in such a manner. There may be cases when a person who is in some denominationally related position should be used in some committee or institutional board. The choice should be of men and women who are needed for the particular responsibility, no matter who they are, or where they serve, and the committees should not be limited in naming them.

A committee was named last year to study the matter of name change, and also was given the responsibility of studying the relationships of the Executive Committee of the convention. It has announced that it will recommend that there be no change in the name. It also will bring only a preliminary report on the work of the Executive Committee and will ask for further time to continue studies of that agency.

One recommendation which possibly will come before the convention, is to change the place of the 1977 meeting from Memphis to Kansas City. Memphis has had the misfortune of seeing its two major downtown hotels close their doors, and plans for a new convention center hotel cancelled, so the city no longer can guarantee the number of rooms required by the convention. Mississippians regret to learn of this, for Memphis would be accessible to many state people who ordinarily do not get to attend the convention. It is to be hoped that Memphis can find solution to its hotel problems, so that the convention can meet there at some future date. The 1976 convention is scheduled for Norfolk, Virginia.

Other minor matters which could come before the convention in motions or resolutions, relate to

ordination of women to the ministry or as deacons, the charismatic movement, the investment policies of the Annuity Board, the use of Sunday School profits for the Cooperative Program rather than to assist states in their program promotion, a renewed disapproval of abortion, and perhaps some others. All of these matters have been named in letters which have come to the editors, relative to issues concerning which some pastor or groups are disturbed. How many of them actually will be offered to the convention, or will reach a discussion and debate stage, remains to be seen. It is not anticipated that any motion or resolution will create really serious problems.

The Miami Beach convention is expected to be a good one, with emphasis upon a positive witness for Christ in this troubled world, and an accelerated program in America and across the world, as Baptists join with the nation in the observance of its bicentennial. It is our prediction that in Miami Beach, Southern Baptists will reveal that they are still on the path of middle of the road conservatism where they so long have traveled, and that they intend to continue to move forward in that very path.

"Ordination" of Women

Last week the Baptist Record carried the story of the "ordination" of a young woman by the North Winona Baptist Church. The story was carried just as it was received, but did not make clear just what the service actually was. The pastor, Brother Leon Ballard, in a Letter to the Editor, published in this week's Forum, calls attention to the fact that this was not an "ordination" to the gospel ministry but rather was the "setting apart" of this young woman for special clinical service in counseling and chaplaincy. There was no "laying on of hands" and there was no thought of this person being "ordained" to preach or pastor a church. This simply was the "setting apart" and approval of a church, which is required by the Home Mission Board before it can endorse a person to the chaplaincy program. Evidently it was much like the dedication service which is held for young people who are being appointed for foreign mission service. This splendid young woman felt a call of God to prepare herself for a ministry of counseling and service in an institution, and her church and denomination have endorsed and dedicated her to that task.

Perhaps it would be well if some other word could be found for such dedication, rather than "ordination," since most Baptists have serious questions concerning the "ordination" of women to a ministry of preaching and pastoral work. Of course, this is not a major issue in Southern Baptist life, but it has created problems for some denominations. We think we can avoid that here, if we simply get our terminology clarified, so that the issue will not become a disturbing one in our midst.



"I WANT TO COMMUNICATE THAT THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST HAS THE ABILITY TO CHANGE ONE'S LIFE IN ORDER TO GIVE INDIVIDUAL PURPOSE AND MEANING."

— JUNE HUNT OF RADIO, TELEVISION & CONCERT STAGE

MODERN-DAY WITNESS

THE BAPTIST FORUM

"Ordination" Actually Was A "Dedication"

Dear Dr. Odle:

The dedicated young woman from our church was set apart to the "Christian ministry of counseling and chaplaincy" to which she feels a sense of call, as others do to missionary work. To secure appointments to such work in the mental health field, one must have the endorsement of the Home Mission Board chaplaincy program. This requires, among other things, the kind of dedication service our church held in setting Miss Octavia Applewhite apart for this type of ministry. Fourteen women from Southern Baptist churches have thus far been approved within the last few years.

Octavia was not ordained to the "Gospel ministry." She does not feel called to preach. Our people, after hearing her testimony, were happy to endorse this fine daughter of the church for this work to which she feels called, just as other churches rejoice when their sons and daughters are called into missionary services or some form of church ministry.

I thought you might need this clarification should anyone inquire.

Sincerely yours,
Leon Ballard, Pastor
North Winona Baptist Church
Winona, Mississippi

Seeks Addresses Of New Students At Naval Academy

Dear Sir:

On July 7 approximately 1,300 young men from across America will begin their "plebe" year at the U.S. Naval Academy, here in Annapolis, Maryland. Heritage Baptist Church (College Avenue Baptist Church until 1972) is looking forward to ministering to all of them we can. It would be helpful to learn the names and home addresses of those who are coming, in order that a personal contact may be made with them before they arrive.

If you, a friend or a relative will be coming to the Academy, please send me the needed information should you care to. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Fred T. Moffatt, Jr., Pastor
Heritage Baptist Church
1740 Forest Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

On The MORAL SCENE...

TV-ADS AND CHILDREN — The National Association of Broadcasters' Code Authority and the Council of Better Business Bureaus, two major industry groups established to protect children from "rude" television commercials, have themselves been accused of fraud. . . . Robert Choate, chairman of the Council on Children, Media and Merchandising, said, "The FTC and the Federal Communications Commission have delegated their responsibilities for protecting children to two private industry groups which are confining their child duties to only 10% of what children see—the Saturday and Sunday fare. Sleeping pills, aspirin, Geritol, Anacin, Bufferin and the like are being advertised to child audiences numbering up to 8 million. . . . We know children should not use these products; we have hard evidence that thousands of them are poisoned or hurt by these products, but we go ahead and advertise them while children are watching. (D.A.C. Bulletin, Vol. 3-No. 4, May, 1975)

Most every family tree has had at least one crop failure.

Decade Of Advance

"Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward," was the word of God to Moses, as the children of Israel stood by the side of the Red Sea, after the deliverance from the bondage of Egypt.

"Forward!" was the command of God, and there is no other way for God's people to go, when He so commands.

Is God giving a similar message to Mississippi Baptists in this critical hour of history?

Mississippi Baptist leaders do believe that he is giving such a command. Dr. Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Convention Board, in his message at the convention session last November, called for Mississippi

Baptists to enter into a "Decade of Advance." He outlined for them a program of achievement, that calls for the pastors, the churches, and the denominational structure, to join together in positive advance during the next ten years.

Now a special series of meetings is scheduled to be held across the state, to carry the message of plans for the "Decade of Advance" to the people. In a feature section in this Record will be found the story of this program, plans for the meetings, goals which have been adopted, and articles by numerous pastors across the state, calling attention to the importance of advance. We hope you will read every word, and then join in this great effort of moving forward for our Lord.

Memphis, TN 38134; 496 pp., paper, \$4.95) An organization calling itself the Baptist Republication Society, with R. E. Pound II as the director, has scheduled the republication of a number of Baptist books of the past, most, or possibly all, of which are now out of print. The first book in this series is this classic book of theology by the famed Southern Baptist theologian, James Pettigrew Boyce. Boyce was a Baptist pastor who became a theological teacher at Furman University in 1855. He is regarded as the founding father of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and along with John A. Broadus, Basil Manly, and William Williams was a co-founder of the school. He was president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1872-1879 and again in 1888. His epitaph reads "First president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary." His book of theology is a series of 42 lectures which cover the field of basic theology. His presentations are clear and concise with solid scriptural support for every statement. This is a basic book for understanding the foundation of the Christian faith and serious students will rejoice that the book is again in print.


MY CHURCH by J. B. Moody (Baptist Republication Society, 325 pp., \$6.95) This is messages by a Southern Baptist leader whose work extended from the last part of the 19th Century into the ear-

ly years of the 20th Century. Most of the messages in this book were lectures delivered to the theological class at Hall Moody Institute in Martin, Tennessee, but included are a message to the Southern Baptist Convention in its meeting in Hot Springs, Ark. (probably 1900) and a message delivered to a BYPU Encampment in Tennessee in 1907. Two other messages which were not part of the lecture series are on Church Loyalty and Church Communion. In these he compares the first church at Jerusalem with Baptist churches and shows how that they are alike. In the second he discusses the proper use of the Lord's Supper. The last half of the book deals with Church Perpetuity. While it actually is under five heads, there are numerous short chapters dealing with specific subjects. The five general heads are: That Church Perpetuity is Scriptural; It is Reasonable; It is Credible; It is Historical; and It is Conclusive. The author traces through Christian history various groups which held to the principles which were held by the New Testament churches and which are the position of modern Baptists. He argues for church perpetuity. He was a logical thinker and a careful scholar. The book will have real value for the one who is really seeking to find the truth on church perpetuity.

NEWEST BOOKS

THE TREASURY OF DAVID in 3 volumes by Charles H. Spurgeon (Zondervan, 3 volumes averaging 480 pp., \$39.95) Spurgeon on the Psalms! What more needs to be said. No greater preacher or more careful student has lived and written. So one expects truly to find here a treasury of rich truth concerning a portion of the scriptures. He will not be disappointed. He will find page after page of exposition and application. On each Psalm there is first an exposition, then explanatory notes and quaint sayings with many quotations from other Bible scholars. Finally there is a section called "Hints to preachers," with suggestions for sermons or even skeleton outlines on each verse of the Psalm. The author even presents an introductory section to each Psalm, discussing its title. One who loves the Psalms and desires to dig into their riches will find a wealth of material here. The preacher who desires to introduce his people to the wondrous truth found in Psalms need look no further for materials to fill his cup, ready for preaching the Word, and because of Spurgeon's wide research he will have the thinking of dozens or even hundreds of the finest Bible writers on the subject. Zondervan has made a great contribution in keeping this set in print.

ABSTRACT OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY by J. P. Boyce (Baptist Republication Society, 312 Brunswick Road,



Light for Living
Chester E. Swor

The Way Isn't Easy!

"I am the way," said Jesus in John 14:6, and his peerless life and unmistakable teachings present that way as clearly as an authoritative road map directs the traveler along his journey. But from the beginning of the Christian era, many of Christ's followers have found some miles of that way somewhat rugged, because some of His teachings go against the grain of selfish human nature. On some of THE WAY we can walk with comfort; on other portions we have to run to keep up with our Leader, Christ; on still other miles of His way, we must jump high hurdles to keep on the course. Some of those high hurdles are found in Matthew 5, and others are found throughout His teachings. Here are some of the hurdles which the faithful disciple will need to scale:

1. **Loving unlovable people.** Matthew 5:43-46 presents Christ's way of dealing with those we don't like, even those who, by their deeds, have become our enemies. Note that He made no exceptions, left no loopholes; we can't dodge that hurdle—we need to scale it.
2. **Forgiving unpardonable people.** The same Matthew passages and other specific teachings of Jesus concerning forgiveness make clear that forgiveness is mandatory to good discipleship, that we need to maintain a ready willingness to forgive, that we should forgive without number limit, that we can do our part of the forgiveness transaction by forgiving in our hearts before the offender even comes to ask us, and that we should take the initiative to restore Christian fellowship (Matthew 5:23,24).
3. **Returning Good for Evil.** Matthew 5:44 and 47 are clear and unmistakable guidelines!
4. **Serving the unworthy and ungrateful.** Read again Matthew 5:44 and 47 and check your diary of service to see if you have learned how to scale this high hurdle.
5. **Cross-bearing without complaint.** Christ's personal invitation to discipleship in Luke 9:23 makes cross-bearing a normal and, therefore, to-be-expected experience of THE WAY. Complaint at the cost of discipleship indicates either a misunderstanding of HIS WAY or regrettable immaturity on the part of the Christian.

There are other high hurdles along THE WAY; BUT WHEN WE'VE SCALED THOSE FIVE, WE'LL FIND THE OTHERS JUST "PAR FOR THE WAY."

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With Deeds Of Love And Mercy

Text: Matt. 10:7-8

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenville



The very language of the Bible presupposes the Christian WILL. ADVANCE. Indeed, on God's battleground there are no instructions at all on how to retreat. Always the command is "forward March!" Matthew says, "And AS YE GO..." (Not if ye go, "preach... heal the sick, cleanse the leper, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give." ADVANCE with DEEDS OF LOVE AND MERCY. After-care counselors for juvenile delinquents are taught that there are two basic things every individual must have to be emotionally and socially stable—love and personal worth. This is not a new concept. It is older than man, for God "hath before ordained" these vital provisions for whosever will of those He created. But on God's battleground, LOVE is the only weapon He is using to win the world to Himself.

The Cross Is Lifted O'er Us

by Perry C. Perkins



Pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenwood

During the dark days of World War II when the people of England were experiencing the horrors of war, Winston Churchill spoke to the nation by radio. After giving them an honest appraisal of the situation, Churchill challenged each man, woman, and child to deny himself, and give his all for his country. Said he, "This could be England's finest hour."

Like England we are faced with a tremendous challenge — the challenge of a "Decade of Advance." Advance will not come automatically or arbitrarily. It's price is sacrificial dedication and inspiration. It is "the cross lifted o'er us."

This "cross lifted o'er us" means that something amazing and wonderful has been done for us. "Hallelujah what a Saviour," who can take a poor lost sinner, lift him from the muddy clay and set him free! That's wonderful, but the Cross goes further than that. It also means that something demanding and exacting is expected of us. In the words of the hymn: "Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all." The Saviourhood and the Lordship of Jesus Christ is our inspiration for this challenging task ahead.

The Crown Awaits The Conquest

by L. B. Martin



Pastor, Charlotte Baptist Church, Charlotte

Crown and conquest are indivisible; neither can exist without the other in Christian experience. Far too many Christians would claim the crown without the conquest. Such a claim is futile and foolish.

Conquest is the act of conquering or something conquered. In an undertaking until it is brought to a victorious conclusion. That we as Mississippi Baptists are being challenged to conquest ourselves in a cooperative effort to bring to a victorious conclusion the course that God has

Lead On, O God Of Might

by Robert E. Sell



Pastor, First Baptist Church, Batesville

The Bible teaches us a truth that has been affirmed on numerous occasions in our experience. It is that God leads His people. "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men," Matthew 4:19b. The call to "follow me" has been heard at some time by each Christian. It is the point of beginning the Christian pilgrimage. As He leads, the Christian is obliged to follow Him. The record

glory. Not a welfare agency, nor do we merely say, "Be ye warned and filled, and give not those things which are needful." But AS WE GO our criterion is clearly set forth, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (Jn 13:35) Just as God commands us to go, so He commands us "to freely give" and through our prayers and sacrificial giving, this next decade can bring forth much fruit.

We are not promised ease, but warfare. Even so, all obstacles are the same size to God. Therefore if God "in us" is working, "through us" then the marvelous, the miraculous, the working with mighty power are but the norm for the Christian endeavor on any front, for they are the norm for God. May each pastor and every person in the capacity of leadership, and every child of God be willing to say, "As for me and my church, we have chosen — a decade of GREAT ADVANCE with DEEDS OF LOVE AND MERCY!"

I support personally the "Decade of Advance" — the tantalizing results and the exacting price. I feel that my Church supports completely the plans for advance. Representing the Church, and on the expression of the unanimous vote of the Church, our elected officers signed the "Declaration of Cooperation." That is the first step. We shall continue our preparation by discussing and answering in small and large groups two basic questions concerning our Church: (1) What is the true God-given task of this Church? (2) How can we make everything we do support that God-given task?

"THY CROSS IS LIFTED O'ER US." We cannot fail!

Conquest for Christ demands our best, our perseverance and our faith. The Apostle Paul wrote (II Timothy 4:7), "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." To Christians who give their best to the Master, who continue in steadfastness and who keep the faith, there is promised a "Crown of Righteousness." (II Timothy 4:8)

Conquest for Christ demands that we feed the flock with the Word and that we be living examples of what Christ would have us be in consecration and commitment. To such, God has promised, a "Crown of Glory." (I Peter 5:4)

God grant us grace to gain the "Crown of Life," the "Crown of Righteousness," and the "Crown of Glory."

"The crown awaits the conquest."

Lead on, O God Of Might.

God's power will surely bless the organization that has as its chief goal His glory and honor.

First Baptist Church of Batesville will organize plans for the Decade of Advance. We will organize to insure successful inreach and outreach. We will attempt to grow spiritually as well as numerically as the Lord leads.

I personally support the plans for advance because I believe that the plans will be instruments through which the power of God can be utilized, anticipation of great blessings.

A Decade Of

ADVANCE

Mississippi Baptists Launch Advance

by Don McGregor



The next 10 years will be crucial ones in Mississippi. No doubt the next decade all over the world will be one of uncertainty and turmoil as nations and power structures operate out of a fear of the future and of other nations and personalities.

The Lord's people must try to provide an island of sanity in a world that seems determined to tear itself apart in a frenzy of fear-inspired activity.

Mississippi Baptists have for years been a cornerstone in the Lord's structure on earth. Sometimes even conversions must get weary, and determination may sag just a little. But Mississippi Baptists cannot afford to bend even just a little in this time of

anxiety. The best way to keep from sagging to any degree is to advance. Thus the Mississippi Baptist Decade of Advance was launched in an address last fall before the Mississippi Baptist Convention by Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Convention Board.

To be properly understood a project or a goal must be identified or defined. Yet Decade of Advance is difficult terminology to define because it is an all-encompassing concept.

It is the total program to be carried on by Mississippi Baptists over the next 10 years. After more than a century of work in the state by Baptists there is really not a great deal that is new that can be isolated and pointed to as being "The Decade of Advance Program."

years by being better prepared than ever before and working harder than ever before.

What's in it for us?

That's really not the point, though one cannot help thinking that when we have carried out our work in such a way as this there will be a positive impact on Mississippi Baptist work and attitude. Surely there is nothing wrong with this, and it is even to be desired.

The primary beneficiaries, however, will be those of "the uttermost part of the earth." The impact that is made right here in Judea will not only point the way for our stumbling neighbors but also will fan out like ripples on a placid lake after a rock has broken its calm and inactive surface.

Hundreds of thousands of new residents are expected to come into Mississippi during the next 10 years. We must be ready to get across them the understanding that we know the way and are ready, willing, and anxious to help them find it.

This is being neighborly.

The Decade of Advance is not a program in a worker's manual. It is working hard, being alert, being prepared, being determined, and keeping on son that there will not be a sag anywhere along the line.

It is proclaiming the name of Christ with boldness and dedication. Will it cost money?

Sure, but no more than what the Lord expects of us.

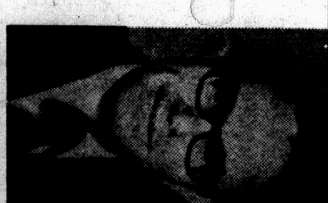
To help explain the Decade of Advance, 14 meetings have been scheduled in every section of the state beginning on June 23 and going until July 29. The schedule will be found inside this supplement. Also inside the supplement are the goals that have been established as a part of the Decade of Advance effort.

We Plan To Try

We Covet

Your Cooperation

by Earl Kelly



Alice in Wonderland asked the white knight, "Which way do we go from here?" His reply was, "That all depends on where you want to go." My co-workers and I have been asking Mississippi Baptists to go? "Where do you want to go?" for the past 18 months. Eighty percent of our resident pastors were interviewed in a face-to-face interview. We learned much from these interviews and interviews with other leaders as they shared their dreams for the future of our Convention.

Many challenging projects have emerged from your wise counsel. Ten-year goals are being formulated. During the "Decade of Advance" we may have to alter course somewhat, redefine some goals, and add others. We have to start somewhere because all journeys begin with the first step.

Mississippi Baptists stand on the front end of the greatest opportunity in their illustrious history. Can we attain all our goals? We plan to try. We covet your cooperation.

The answer depends on increased participation through the Cooperative Program by every church in the Convention.

Quit Praying And Get The People Moving!

by Marjann Patterson



Put yourself in this picture: Suppose you are one of the children of Israel. You have been rescued from the clutches of the Pharaoh of Egypt. Now you are following Moses through a seemingly endless desert. Hot on your heels are the Egyptian chariots and soldiers. You cry and pray to the Lord, and suddenly an impressive, and seemingly contradictory command, comes to Moses from the Lord.

Does Moses understand what the Lord is saying to him? Aren't we always commanded to pray, at all times and under all circumstances? Can the Lord possibly be saying that there's to be a time for His people to get

And All Egypt Shall Know That I Am Jehovah

Exodus 14:15 - TTB



Executive Director, Miss. Baptist Foundation

The Egyptians had almost as much ground to believe in Jehovah as did Moses and Israel. They had seen the whole series of miracles leading up to the loss of the army of Pharaoh in the sea. The course of human history and the Bible show that the preferred action of God is mercy in gracious, tender voice and leadership, but God will be heard if violent, disastrous demonstrations of nature are required.

The preferred will of Jehovah was to bless the Egyptians, but their own reactions to His redemptive plans brought upon themselves such judgments that even the most stupid mind and hardest heart had to recognize that Jehovah is God.

The work of Jehovah will be carried on with, in and through us, or without us. We are not going to defeat Him, we only defeat ourselves. We do not break the laws of God. We break ourselves when we dare to dash ourselves against them. The destructive measures employed by Jehovah were apparently for the protection and care of Israel; also that stubborn, rebellious, hard-hearted, "Egypt" (Continued inside)

Miracles Accompany Forward Movement

by Frank Gena
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Miami



"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Quit praying and get the people moving! Forward, march! Use your rod—hold it out over the water, and the sea will open up a path before you, and all the people of Israel shall walk through on dry ground!'" Exodus 14:15-16, TLB.

Immediately, we recognize these words as being a part of the miracles God performed in dividing the Red Sea, allowing the people of Israel to cross the sea on dry ground, and later the destruction of the Egyptians, their chariots and horsemen. This is only one example in the midst of an endless list of miracles God shared with His people as they moved forward.

This Is The Day For Advance

by Brooks Walker
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg



If one reads the Biblical Revelation with just a little of what one old Seminary Professor used to call "sanctified imagination," excitement will swell as the account of God's dealing with Moses and the people of Israel unfolds. The Deuteronomistic narrative opens with Moses telling all Israel what God has said concerning their orders to march in to claim the land of Canaan which He had promised to their fathers. They had already achieved great victories over their adversaries outside the land, but now they were to remove their camp and turn to take the whole of the land that God had set before them. The day for their advance had arrived!

Likewise, if Mississippi Baptists will use some "sanctified imagination," they will see some "sanctified advance."

God's Admonition Is "Forward"

by Gerald Buckley
Pastor, Parkway Baptist Church, Natchez



The 14th chapter of Exodus contains a very dramatic story. The children of Israel have left Egypt, and they are on their way to the Promised Land. They came to the sea, and there they camped. Pharaoh gathered his forces, and 600 Egyptian chariots took off in hot pursuit. The Israelites saw the Egyptian army approaching in the far distance. God's chosen people were terribly frightened, and they turned against Moses. With faint hearts, they began to whine and complain. In the face of danger and difficulty, they wished they had remained slaves in Egypt. But God was equal to the occasion. He instructed Moses to get the people moving. The command was given to march forward. As the children of Israel moved forward, God parted the sea and led them to safety on the other side.

The Day Of March Has Come!

by P. A. Michel
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Brookhaven



Though no prophet, the poet was nonetheless prophetic when he said, "There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, when taken at the Flood, leads on to victory." If Mississippi Baptists have been saying for a rainy day, we now realize that the flood has come! Let's take hold of the opportunity before us.

I believe the Decade of Advance is a worthy program. Good plans have been made and some have already been inaugurated. Everything done thus far is a progressive step into the future. I am delighted with the organizational restructuring that can only enhance our efforts to reach people in the name of our Lord. I am excited

Refined Decade Of Advance Goals

As Mississippi Baptists move through the Decade of Advance (1975-1984) we move thanking God for the past and trusting God for the future.

I. In the Area of Stewardship and Cooperative Program

1. In the Area of Stewardship and giving through Biblical Stewardship from \$68.08 in 1973 to \$140.21 in 1984.

2. Increase the percentage of church offerings to be channeled through the Cooperative Program by one half percent per year for the next ten years.

3. In 1974 to 1984 Cooperative Program goals would be as follows:

Year	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Cooperative Program goals would be as follows:	\$7,062,000	7,556,340	8,065,283	8,651,253	9,256,941	9,904,820	10,598,187	11,340,028	12,133,830	

3. Increase the percentage of the MCB budget going to worldwide causes by one half percent per year for the next ten years.

Year	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
to	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
to	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984

Scholarship Fund for National Baptist ministerial students in accredited Baptist Colleges and Seminaries.

8. Assist in the developing of a strong missions program in every association.

9. Improve the baptism ratio from 1-31 in 1973 to 1-25 in 1984.

10. Increase resident membership from 418,888 in 1974 to 500,000 in 1984.

11. Develop strategy for reaching and winning adults.

12. Assist churches to develop a dynamic program for senior adults.

13. Develop a renewed emphasis on teaching adults Baptist doctrine.

14. Strive for a 10 percent increase in enrollment in all Church Program Organizations.

15. Create 100 new churches in fast growing areas.

16. Provide a weekly religious news cast for the entire state.

17. Increase support to all agencies and institutions.

18. Develop a coordinated Youth Program for associations and churches.

And All Egypt Shall Know That I Am Jehovah

As the Egyptian army approached, the people of Israel saw them far in the distance, speeding after them, and they were terribly frightened, and cried out to the Lord to help them.

And they turned against Moses, whining, "Have you brought us out here to die in the desert because there were not enough graves for us in Egypt? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Isn't this what we told you, while we were slaves, to leave us alone? We said it would be better to be slaves to the Egyptians than dead in the wilderness."

But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand where you are and watch, and you will see the wonderful way the Lord will lead you."

Lead on, O King Eternal,
The day of march has come,
Henceforth in fields of conquest
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper
Tenth's shall be our home:
The sweet amen of peace:
Through days of preparation
For not with sword's loud clashing,
Thy grace has made us strong,
Or roll of stirring drums:
And now, O King Eternal,
With deeds of love and mercy
We lift our battle song.
The heavenly kingdom comes.
Lead on, O God of might.

Through Days Of Preparation

(Continuation)

The total of our Mississippi Baptist work and program should be and is geared to the ultimate objective of making Christ known. Exhaling Christ, lifting Him up that He may draw all men unto Himself, must be the explanation of all that we do.

That which is so basic, that which is so needed by so many within our state, and that which is so clear in the experience, example,

Thy Grace Has Made Us Strong



I met a farmer once who bemoaned the fact that he had invested so much in a cotton crop. "But I can't quit now," he said. "It would be foolish to plow the crop under and not harvest it."

In our Scripture text are found some people who would give up and "plow the crop under." They had committed themselves to finding God's promised land, but now things looked bleak and they wanted to quit. (10-12).

You and I face the challenge of expanding our Lord's work in our great state. But there are problems. Indifference, like Egypt's army, look like overwhelming loss. "There are not enough people who care and costs are soaring," whines many a Mississippi Christian.

and commandments of Christ, must not be taken lightly by us. There is a divine imperative and pressing immediacy to make Christ known to the multitudes about us. Delay can only mean defeat and disaster to those who do not "know Jehovah." Delay will also mean disobedience, lost opportunities, lost happiness, and lost rewards for the redeemed.

Aren't we glad, even excited about the programs being planned and promoted to greatly accelerate that which is to be done for Christ in Mississippi? The Decade of Advance will enable us to have our eyes focused on the objective and our feet traveling the known highway. The Decade of Advance will enable all of us to catch step and hold hands in the mightiest effort ever undertaken to do what Christ wants done in this state. Let us give ourselves so totally to Christ and His program that during the Decade of Advance, "All Mississippi shall know that I am Jehovah." (Paraphrase of Exodus 14:18 in Living Bible)

Exodus 14:18-18
by Franklin D. Pollard
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson

tion. "We'll never be able to reap the harvest. Let's just plow it under and forget it."

Just as Dr. Earl Kelly has challenged us, Moses challenged his people to "look up and catch a vision of what God can do." (13-14)

Now our Great God has a word for us: It is time to move! (15-18). That time has come for us. I pray it will be the desire of the people of our church to reach all we can for our Lord. In the context of that desire, we are committed to cooperation in this Decade of Advance.

Three kinds of people are involved in any movement: those who make things happen; those who watch things happen; and those who don't even know anything is happening. May He help you and me to be a part of making it happen!

by Beverly V. Thumlin
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Meridian

I remember an incident that occurred back during the depression years. I was enrolled as a student at Louisiana College in Pineville, La. I had decided to travel home to Shreveport and had hitched a ride with a kindly old gentleman. My benefactor turned out to be a minister of another denomination.

He indicated to me that if he had his life to live over again he would do so as a Baptist minister. He expressed keen disappointment with his own denomination for their letting institutions that had operated, some for many years, die for a lack of faith and financial

Scripture

will rescue you today. The Egyptians you are looking at — you will never see them again. The Lord will fight for you, and you won't need to lift a finger!"

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Quit praying and get the people moving! Forward, march! Use your rod — hold it out over the water, and the sea will open up a path before you, and all the people of Israel shall walk through on dry ground! I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians and they will go in after you and you will see the honor I will get in defeating Pharaoh and all his armies, chariots, and horsemen. And all Egypt shall know that I am Jehovah."

Exodus 14:10-18 TLB
Decade Of Advance Hymn

Lead on, O King Eternal,
We follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Thy face appears:
Thy cross is lifted over us;
We journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest:
Lead on, O God of might.



Schedule Of Meetings

Date	Church	City
June 23	First	Biloxi
June 24	First	Hattiesburg
June 26	First	Brookhaven
June 27	First	Natchez
June 30	First	Jackson
July 1	First	Meridian
July 7	First	Greenwood
July 8	First	Greenwood
July 14	First	Clarksdale
July 15	First	Batesville
July 17	First	Holly Springs
July 18	First	Tupelo
July 28	First	Kosciusko
July 29	First	Starkville



Baptist Student Union leaders at Mississippi State University for the 1975-76 session are pictured above. Seated left to right: Pat Stroud, Vicksburg; Janis Dale, Jackson; Carolyn Coleman, Colstrip, Montana; Mrs. June Scoggins, associate director. Back row, left to right: Dr. Jerry Vardaman, faculty advisor; Chuck McElhannon, South Haven;

David Shepherd, Columbus; Mike Duke, Newton; Tom Daniel, Jackson; Guyton Turner, Leakesville; Joel Yelverton, Jackson; Phil Johnsey, President from Corinth; Tommy Middleton, Chester; David Sumrall, Crystal Springs; Marwan Sayegh, Gaza; Jerry Merriman, director; and Rev. Wilburn Matthews, pastor advisor.

Miss America To Speak At Acteens Conference

Shirley Cothran, the reigning Miss America and a former Acteens leader, will be in the lineup of more than 50 program personalities in the National Acteens Conference slated for Memphis June 25-29.

More than 10,000 Acteens and

their leaders have registered, with scant room left for latecomers, according to Beverly Sutton, Acteens consultant for Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Sutton said the registration now stands at more than double the original projection. WMU has moved the meeting into larger quarters each time registration

exceeded capacity.

Most NAC sessions will be held in the Cook Convention Center. Theme for the meeting is "In Touch," designed to brief girls on how they can relate to worldwide crises through missions.

Special NAC features will relate to the 45th anniversary of Acteens, which is WMU's missions organization for junior high and senior high school girls. A "time capsule" exhibit will involve girls in the Acteens anniversary celebration. Other exhibits will be built as streets of the world and will give girls a chance to meet and talk with 36 missionaries.

Miss America will give her testimony Wednesday evening, June 25th.

Multimedia theme interpretations presented by the Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board staffs will begin each session. Biblical dramas written and directed by Bob Oldenburg, minister of education at Leawood Baptist Church of Kansas City, Kansas will spark late-night discussion groups.

The Acteens will participate in the commissioning of several young home and foreign missionaries who are en route to mission appointments.

Music will be directed by Forbes Woods, minister of music at North Phoenix Baptist Church in Arizona. Several singing groups from Southern Baptist ethnic groups will perform. Theme meditations feature Andrew Culverwell, a young recording artist from Somerset, England.

Wendell Belew, director of the Missions Division of the Home Mission Board, will lead the Acteens in a concluding service of commitment.

Mrs. Charles Caldwell, author and modeling teacher from Houston, Texas, will lead creative prayer periods.

Juliette Mather, WMU's first young people's leader and long-retired editorial secretary of the organization, will present daily summaries of the news and will explain missions implications.

Other major speakers will be M. Thomas Starkes, Campus Minister at Southwestern Missouri State University; Beverly Hammett, Christian Social Ministries Department of the Home Mission Board; Sam DeBord, Mission Support Division of the Foreign Mission Board; Jerry Scruggs, Home Mission Board; Carolyn Weatherford, WMU executive secretary; and Alma Hunt, former WMU executive secretary.

to fill this need for South Mississippi and the Hattiesburg area in particular, says a college spokesman.

The price for admission will include the show and a full-course meal. Morrison's Food Service will cater the food.

Auditions have been completed for the company of four actors. Two musicians will provide accompaniment. Technical assistant and a house manager round out the student company. Production director is O. L. Quave and the choreographer is Madalene Daniel. An Advisory Board, consisting of faculty, students, and administrators is completing final details. In addition, various individuals in Hattiesburg are assisting in preparations.

Fairhaven Gives Bibles To Grads

Fairhaven Church, Olive Branch, presented Bibles to their graduating seniors: Janet Darling, Andy Allison, Edith Murphy, Danny Boland, Cindy Murphy, Ginny Lynn Riley, Mackie Moore, Ronnie Burton, Clarence Regal, and Kenneth Brown. Baccalaureate services were held for the graduating members of the church on May 11. Also, the senior class of DeSoto County Academy joined in the service.

Rev. Jackie Cooke, Fairhaven pastor, delivered a special message, and a reception was held in Fellowship Hall in honor of the graduates.

Arcola Youth Present Concert

Members of Arcola Youth Choir presented a concert at Arcola Church Sunday night, May 18. The program included religious music — contemporary, spiritual, western, classical, folk, gospel, country, and rock gospel.

Mrs. Norton Miller directed the concert. Youth singers, who had memorized all the selections presented, were Tanya Donahoe, Daryl Johnston, Gail Johnston, Joyce Johnston, Pat Johnston, Pat Taylor Johnston, Jamie Madison, Barrie McCraw, Clark Mulloy, and Bethany Ray.

Rev. Cecil L. Mulloy is the pastor.

Brooklyn To Hear "New Beginning"

"The New Beginning" will conduct a one-night youth revival at First, Brooklyn, on June 19, according to Rev. James A. Woody pastor. The service will begin at 7:30.

The "New Beginning" consists of six people: Terry Gorham, the group's manager and bass guitarist; John Lee, bass singer and lead guitarist; Kay Cox, alto singer and pianist; Carol Cox, soprano singer, who plays guitar, trumpet, and piano; Carlita Newby, second soprano, who plays flute and guitar; and Tommy Cox, percussionist.

This group is sponsored by the Tom Cox Evangelistic Association. Tom Cox has been a full-time evangelist for two years. He is presently pastor of Plainview Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He and his wife, Irma Jean, are the parents of four children, three of whom are members of the "New Beginning."

MOBASA, Kenya — The Mobasa Baptist High School graduating class scored an 80 per cent pass on the African Cambridge Examinations for 1974. This is a higher pass level than most of the other schools achieved, according to Southern Baptist missionary, Mrs. Louise T. Seales. The basketball team from Mobasa Baptist High School won their third Coast Provincial Championship this year.



WHEELING THE TORCH — Royal Ambassador (RA) Kevin Riggs of Northwoods Baptist Church in Chamblee, Ga., moves the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program (unified budget) 50th Anniversary torch one-quarter mile enroute to the denomination's convention in Miami Beach (June 10-12). Riggs, who has cerebral palsy, is assisted by his RA counselor Norman Smith. More than 1,500 Georgia RAs carried the torch, with a total estimated 3,000 RA boys expected to carry it along the 1,300 mile route from Memphis to Miami Beach. (BP) Photo by Robert LaFavre

Today's Youth

Special Projects Accent Summer Missions Program

ATLANTA, Ga. — Backpacking, musical drama, deaf work and prisoner rehabilitation are some of the special projects in which the Home Mission Board will involve student summer missionaries in 1975, according to Emery Smith of the HMB's Department of Special Mission Ministries.

The 610 student summer missionaries named by the HMB will join 223 summer missionaries appointed by the state Baptist Student Unions and 200 students who will work in their home states through their state student departments in a variety of ministries across the country. All are college students who work ten weeks.

This year special skills of the students will be used in particular ministries in HMB work. A group of students will lead backpacking expeditions of young people in the California wilderness and the Wind River Canyon of Wyoming. Christian High Adventure, directed by Chuck Clayton will "relate the adventure of Christ life to the adventure of the wilderness experience."

Students with experience in communicating with the deaf will work in projects in Virginia, California, Michigan, Louisiana, and Kentucky, and a special communications team in journalism and photography will be continuing its second summer relating to the Kansas-Nebraska Baptist convention.

There will be a special utilization of ethnic and language students within their own groups as in New Mexico which will have several Indian students to work with Indians. For the first time two black students will work on South Carolina's Daufuskie Is-

land with Vacation Bible Schools, recreation and campfire-type services. The island was the scene of the experiences of the teacher featured in the movie "Conrack."

Smith says that, although these students are involved in special projects, including students who will work in prisons and correctional institutions in South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Georgia with juveniles and adult offenders, most will work in Bible clubs, Home Bible Fellowships, survey and other youth programs.

The Home Mission Board named 39 Mississippians to be student summer missionaries in 1975. Their names, hometowns, schools and places of service are as follows:

Rhena Ellisha Adams, Terry, Mississippi State University, Arizona; John Wesley Anderson, Belzoni, Alcorn State University, California; Barbara Lucinda Barnes, Prentiss, Alcorn State University, Missouri; Edith Nay Bennett, Jackson, Mississippi College, New York; William Darrell Boggs, Clinton, Mississippi College, New Mexico; Mrs. Babette Graves Boggs, Clinton, Mississippi College, New Mexico.

Billy Gene Bowle, Shelby, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, California; Dennis Joseph Brown, McComb, University of Southern Mississippi, Northwest; Jennie Marie Bryant, Crystal Springs, Mississippi College, Kansas-Nebraska; Glenda Robin Buckels, Brookhaven, Copiah-Lincoln Junior College, New York; David Lamar Calder, Greenwood, Mississippi College, Special Project; Carlton Dean Campbell, Natchez, Delta State University, Northern Plains; Jeannie Hope Clements, Corinth, Blue Mountain College,

New York; Charlotte Ann Cole, D'Lo, Delta State University, New York.

David Russell Cox, Clinton, Mississippi College, New York; James Randy Davis, Wesson, Delta State University, New England; Jessica S. Davis, Fayette, Alcorn State University, Pennsylvania; Johnnie Ruth Davis, Canton, Tuskegee Institute, Michigan; Charles Hunt Hines, Natchez, University of Southern Mississippi, Northwest; Jean Ann Hodge, Southaven, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Maryland; Nadene Houston, Jackson, Tougaloo, Washington, D. C.; Jeanie Jackson, Greenwood, Alcorn State University, California; Elijah Devon Jones, Hattiesburg, University of Southern Mississippi, California; Gerry Hurdle Jones, Coffeeville, Blue Mountain College, Ohio.

Johnny S. Jones, Morton, Alcorn State University, Maryland; Rose Etta Knight, Prentiss, Alcorn State University, California; Rox Ann McCombs, Vicksburg, Delta State University, New York; Julia Ann McIlwain, Southaven, Union University, Wisconsin; Richard R. McKorkle, Hattiesburg, Alcorn State University, California; Henry Magee, Tyler, Mississippi College, Utah; Marty Mann Maltby, Jackson, Mississippi College, Illinois; Margaret Ann Marsh, Byhalia, Blue Mountain College, Nevada.

Dwight Ray Massengill, Rienzi, Blue Mountain College, New York; Jackie M. Pope, Shubuta, Alcorn State University, South Carolina; Sheri Lynn Randle, West Point, Alcorn State University, Arkansas; David Earl Sartin, Marks, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Indiana; Freida Dell Stovall,

Church Training Youth Conferences Planned

Ragan Courtney and his wife Cynthia Clawson will serve as celebration leaders for Church Training Youth Conferences at Glorieta and Ridgecrest Conference Centers this summer.

The Glorieta Youth Conference is scheduled June 7-13 and the Ridgecrest week will be July 5-11. Courtney, a lyricist from Dallas, and his wife, a concert singer, will be in charge of the celebrations for approximately 2,000 youth at each week.

"Bright New Wings" will be the theme for both weeks. The conferences are designed to offer youth fresh approaches in group work and worship expressions based on the biblical concept "... in Christ a new creation."

"Gifts and Discipleship," by John Hendrix, will be used as a basis for study along with contemporary studies from the youth church training curriculum.

GAZA — Members of the nursing school of the Gaza Baptist Hospital were recently recognized as outstanding nurses in the Gaza Strip. Miss Bertha Jane Marshall, Southern Baptist missionary director of the Baptist Hospital School of Nursing, presented the Red Crescent award, for outstanding leadership and advancement in the field of nursing, to Miss Khadija el Shalfouth.



Perry County Girls Attend Luau

Girls in Action in Perry County attended an associational luau on May 9 in the fellowship hall of First Church, Richton. Mrs. Bess Moon, Perry County Girls in Action director, reports that 140 were in attendance for the luau which was planned on the theme, "Come Away With Me to Hawaii."

Acteens of First Church, Richton, greeted each guest by placing a lei around her neck and pinning a flower in her hair. Other Acteens translated the guest's English name into Hawaiian.

One highlight of the evening was the delicious Hawaiian meal. A decorated bamboo hut was the setting for the feast.

Four churches in the association displayed exhibits: Richton, First — a tabletop scene of a Hawaiian village; Brewer — a large map of Hawaii; First, Beaumont — Hawaiian holidays and festivals, and First, New Augusta — Hawaiian art exhibit. Other churches in the association present were First, Runnelstown, and Seminary Church, Hintonville.

Each church that has a G.A. was asked to select a representative as queen. The following represented their church: Robin Corley — First, New Augusta; Melanie Hammons — First, Richton; Mary Hoeflich — Brewer; and Mickey Hedd — First, Beaumont. A random drawing was conducted by the guest speaker, Marjean Patterson, and Mary Hoeflich's name was drawn. Mrs. Bess Moon crowned her as the Queen of the luau with a crown of fresh gardenias.

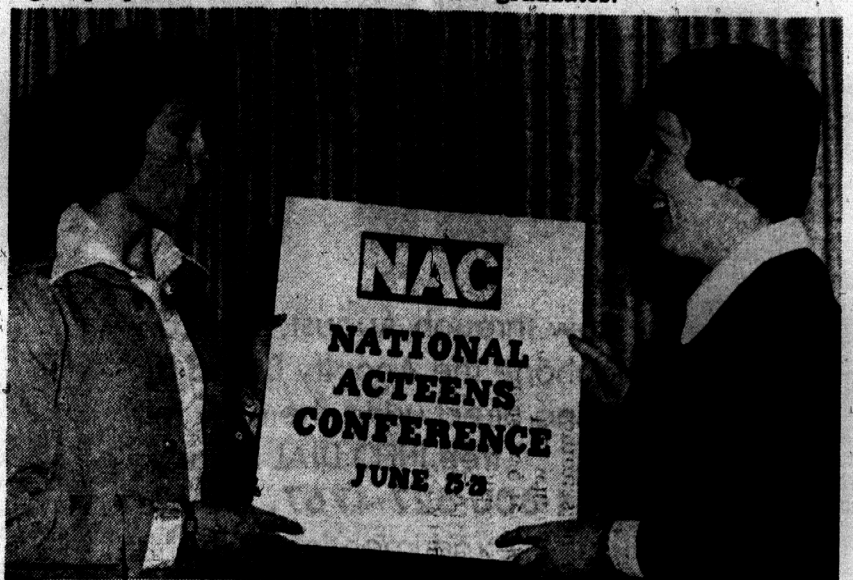
Bill Wade, minister of music and education, First Church, Richton, serenaded the queen and her court by playing his guitar and singing.

The First Baptist Minstrels, a puppet production of First, Richton, presented a skit entitled "The Rays Find a Way."

Guest speaker for the evening, Marjean Patterson, executive secretary of Mississippi WMU, told of her trip to Hawaii. She also showed color slides.



The youth of Gillsburg Church near Osyka, pictured above, recently conducted a family religious survey of the church community, surveying 186 families. The following week they were in charge of Wednesday night prayer service, and presented a dialogue session, addressing questions to a panel of church officers. In other recent activities, the Youth Choir presented a special program, "Saviour, Teach Me Day By Day," and a film was shown, "Don't Call Me, God, I'll Call You."



Shirley Cothran, Miss America, (left) plans with Beverly Sutton, WMU's Acteens consultant, for the National Acteens Conference. More than 10,000 girls are registered for the conference June 25-29 in Memphis.



The "New Generation" Singers from First Church of Horn Lake, under direction of Lynn Madden, minister of music, toured Alabama and Georgia from June 1 through June 4. This group presented the musical "Share" with an instrumental ensemble in First Church, Oneonta, Alabama and Ft. Valley, Georgia. They presented this program in their home church on June 4. Rev. Billy E. Roby is pastor.



Graduating seniors of Bethel (Lincoln) were honored on May 2 with a covered dish supper, by the church members. A program, "This Is Your Life," was presented. Seniors pictures, awards, and trophies were on display. Left to right are Deborah Hart, Earl Moak, Roger Moak, Mike Moak, and Charmaine Benedict. All except Earl Moak are to graduate from Bogue Chitto High School, and Earl will graduate from North Pike. All have been active in church activities. Rev. Doug Benedict is pastor.

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Strong Hope Church Notes Centennial

The Strong Hope Baptist Church, eastern Copiah County, will celebrate its 100th anniversary June 15, with an all day service. The church was organized Jan. 7, 1875 with 14 charter members. The morning service will be conducted by the pastor, Rev. R. L. Smith, giving recognition to former and present members. Old-fashioned "dinner on the ground" will be served from the recreation center and the afternoon service will be dedicated to former pastors and members. The Historical Committee has made a study of all available records of the church and prepared a summary of the highlights which will be available in a booklet along with some pictures. The booklet can be obtained at cost.

"Everyone is invited to come/be with us on this memorable occasion. We especially hope people who no longer live in our area will be able to return and renew old acquaintances and help us direct our second century in a Christian direction," states the pastor.

Register Now For Old Fashioned Singing School

An "Old Fashioned Singing School" designed especially for music workers in smaller churches, who have limited music training, is set for June 19-21, at Mississippi College.

"NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER!" according to the church music department of the convention board. If you do not have a registration form, just contact Church Music Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, or your Associational Director of Missions.

Mr. Hall urges that churches not miss out on this significant music event planned especially for them.

Mt. Zion Observes 100th Anniversary

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Lincoln County, observed memorial Homecoming on June 1.

Lunch was served in the Fellowship Hall at noon following regular morning worship services.

Afternoon services consisted of memorial services, music, and a short business session of the cemetery association.

Leakesville Jaycees Plan Two Day Crusade

Gary Dearman of the Leakesville Jaycees has announced that plans have been made for a giant two day Crusade in the old gym of Leakesville high school for June 19-20.

Evangelist Jerry Mixon of Petal, Mississippi will be speaking. The music will be directed by the Brad Ramsey Family of Waco, Texas.

Christian High Adventure Slates Six Expeditions, Treks

Christian High Adventure, 1975, will offer six wilderness expeditions and backpack treks, June 2 through Aug. 30, for persons wishing to combine their love of the outdoors and quest for adventure with a concern for Bible study and Christian fellowship.

Sponsored by the Home Mission Board Department of Special Mission Ministries, the Church Recreation Department of the Sunday School Board and SBC Brotherhood Commission, CHA is directed by Chuck Clayton, home missionary with 27 years experience in scouting and camping.

The expeditions and treks are as follows:

June 2-11, California Leadership Expedition. Limited to 15 participants, 18 and older. Rendezvous—Redding, Calif., Trinity Alps Wilderness area; tuition \$100.

June 16-20, California Co-ed Backpack Trek. Limited to 30 co-ed participants, 16 and older. In conjunction with California State Youth Assembly. Rendezvous—Jenness Park Baptist Assembly, Clarks Fork of Stanislaus National Forest. Tuition \$50.

June 28 - July 12, Wind River Wilderness Mountaineering Expedition. Limit 20 male participants, 15% and older. Rendezvous—Lander, Wyo., Wind River Mountains of Wyoming. Tuition \$200.

July 18-25, Glorieta Leadership Expedition. Limit 30 participants, 18 and older. Rendezvous—Glorieta, N. Mex., Pecos Wilderness area. Tuition \$100.

August 9-23, Sierra Wilderness Mountaineering Expedition. Limit 30 male participants, 15% and older. Rendezvous—Jenness Park Baptist Assembly, Emmigrant and Hoover Wilderness area, North Yosemite Park. Tuition \$200.

August 25 - 30, Adventure Backpack Trek. Limit 30 male participants, 13-15 years, Rendezvous—Jenness Park Baptist Assembly, Sonora Pass area of Sierras. Tuition \$75.

Tuition for each trip includes food and the use of camping, backpacking, fishing and climbing equipment. Additional charges will be made for articles lost or excessively damaged.

Each participant must have a valid fishing license and will provide boots, clothes and other personal items.

Clayton, western states coordinator for the Department of Special Mission Ministries, said the aim of the Christian High Adventure program is to relate the adventure of Christ life to the adventure of the wilderness experience.

Additional information can be obtained by writing to Christian High Adventure, P. O. Box 317, Carnelian Bay, Calif., 95711.

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Golden Gate President Sets Retirement Date

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Harold K. Graves, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here since 1952, will retire July 31, 1977, according to seminary trustee chairman, H. J. Flanders.

In another development, the seminary named Christopher C. Evans as public relations associate. Evans, a native Texan, will direct the seminary's news operation, succeeding Larry C. Baker, who has become pastor of First Baptist Church, Lodi, Calif.

Trustees appointed a presidential search committee, chaired by Jack

Pollard, pastor of South Side Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Ark., to find Graves' successor and also named committee and recommend appropriate retirement arrangements for Graves.

Graves, a native of Tennessee, is a graduate of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill., and earned his master of theology and doctor of divinity degrees from Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Evans joined the staff of the Fort Worth Press after earning a degree in journalism from Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

Charles Carter, chairman of the board of Bankers Trust Company, Jackson, has been named to the Presidential Search Committee.

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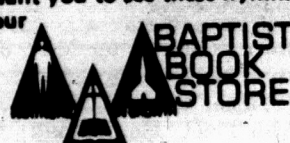
For only \$2.95 you can have a rich and fresh approach to 100 Biblical subjects by purchasing this new book, **ONE HUNDRED BIBLE LESSONS**, (268 pages) written by a former missionary to China, Rev. Alban Douglas. Purchase at most Jackson religious book stores or order from: **TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH, P.O. Box 8524, Jackson, Ms. 39204.**

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A hymnal "that will sing us into the twenty-first century." Baptist Hymnal 1975 is the finest ever for congregational singing! It was designed for the person in the pew. Songs are included that have never before appeared in any hymnal.

Some familiar songs added to this hymnal include: How Great Thou Art; All That Thrills My Soul; The Saviour Is Waiting; Sweet, Sweet Spirit; I Have Decided to Follow Jesus; Here Is My Life; Set My Soul Afire; and many, many others.

For the greatest congregational singing order the NEW Baptist Hymnal. Contact us about prices, and ask for a color swatch book. Special editions are available also. We want you to see these hymnals at your



Names In The News

Douglas Matthew Buckles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Buckles of Roxie, was licensed to the ministry by Elmo (Jefferson) on May 6. Rev. David Brooks, pastor, presented the certificate of license. Matt is a student at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College where he will be president of BSU and SGA for the 1975-76 school year. Later he plans to attend Mississippi College. He serves as Sunday School director and teaches a Young People's class. He preached his first sermon at Elmo on May 18.



Rick Willis of Jacksonville, Fla. accepted a call to Pocatonton Baptist Church as Minister of Music, and will assume duties on June 15, 1975. He is married to the former Judy White, also of Jacksonville. He is a sophomore at Mississippi College, majoring in Church Music.



Harold G. Wilson has accepted the pastorate of Union Baptist Church in Waltham County, effective May 1, and is on the field. He came from High Hill Church in Neshoba County, where he had served since 1972. His new address is Rt. 1, Box 228U, Tylertown, Miss. 39667.

Clay Gibson, 46-year-old Choctaw Indian, a Baptist pastor, has announced his candidacy for the office of Chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in the June 10 regular tribal election. For the first time since the establishment of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians by the Act of Congress thirty years ago, the word Chief will be used instead of Chairman and the Chief will be elected by popular vote. Mr. Gibson, a native of Leake County, now resides in Neshoba County. He is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and Southwestern Seminary. He had 28 years of pastoral experience in Oklahoma and Mississippi. While in school, he received a scholarship from Baptist Women of Meridian.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Guy Henderson, missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 727 E. Northside Drive, Jackson, Miss. 39206).

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McEachin, recently appointed missionaries to Taiwan, have arrived on the field (address, Box 427, Taipei 100, Taiwan). Mrs. McEachin, the former Mary Blair Parrish lived in Laurel, Miss. while growing up.

NASHVILLE — Loren G. Miller, former manager of the Lifeway Book Store in Jackson, Miss., has been named manager of the Baptist Book Store in Norfolk, Va. He succeeds Nolan Houston, who resigned to enter the pastorate.



Rev. Lynn Stephens, student at Southeastern Seminary, will serve Society Hill (Jeff Davis) as associate pastor for the summer. He is a native of Oak Vale, and a graduate of William Carey College. Rev. Tom McCurley is Society Hill pastor.

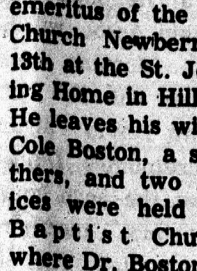


John Calvin Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Kelly of Yazoo City, is the new assistant pastor of Ridgecrest Church, Montgomery, Alabama. He graduated in May at Mississippi State University, where he received a degree in communications. For the past two summers he has served as youth director for Capitol Heights Church, Montgomery. He is grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Holton of Jackson, and the late Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Kelly of Yazoo City.



Rev. Charles A. Tope has accepted a call as pastor of Northwest Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Last year the Tope family returned to the States from East Africa, where they had been serving as missionaries. While on furlough, they have been living in Clinton.

Dr. V. E. Boston 84, pastor emeritus of the First Baptist Church Newbern, died May 18th at the St. Joseph's Nursing Home in Hillsboro, Wis. He leaves his wife Mrs. Leila Cole Boston, a son, four brothers, and two sisters. Services were held in the First Baptist Church Newbern where Dr. Boston pastored for ten years. Dr. Boston was from a well known family of preachers in West Tennessee. He had also pastored churches in Mississippi (First Baptist Church, Winona and Clarksdale), Texas, and Arkansas, as well as numerous churches in West Tennessee. His ministry spanned sixty-five years.



Rev. Paul David Aultman, pastor of First Church, Ocean Springs, for 11 years, was awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree in graduation exercises at Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Florida, on May 9. Born at Sumrall, Mr. Aultman has studied at Clarke, University of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. He has now enrolled for work toward the Doctor of Theology degree, which he expects to receive in 1977.



To lead Carey Early Childhood Education Conference in June is Mrs. Karen Ginn, above from Perry County. Director of the Perry County Pre-school program, Mrs. Ginn tries out her methods above on son Michael and daughter Carla. The second annual early childhood education conference at Carey College will take place June 26 and 27 under the direction of Mrs. Iris Brantley, head of the Early Childhood Development Laboratory at Carey. All inquiries concerning the conference, which will feature several outstanding authorities in the field, may be directed to Mrs. Brantley at William Carey College in Hattiesburg.

Rev. Paul Kolb, former association missionary for Panola County Association, received his Doctor of Ministry degree in recent ceremonies at Luther Rice Seminary, in Jacksonville, Florida.



Dr. Kolb is a native of Union County, received his B.A. degree from Southern Seminary. For the past five years, he has been pastor of First Church, Lake Providence, La.

Rev. Ralph E. Brady, 112 Clinton Circle, Jackson, Ms. 39206, has resigned as pastor of Clear Branch, Rankin County, and is available for "pulpit supply, interim or full time work." A graduate of Clarke and Mississippi Colleges he has pastored for 22 years. He has made two overseas preaching trips, had long experience in working with B.A. camping programs, and conducted a daily radio program for ten years in Brookhaven. His telephone is 922-2140.

Homer Martinez, an evangelist well-known in Mississippi, was honored with a Doctor of Divinity degree by Shenandoah Bible College of Roanoke, Virginia, on May 19.

Sunday School Lesson: International

The Nature Of The Bible

By Wm. J. Fallis
Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Luke 1:14;
2 Timothy 3:16-17;
2 Peter 1:16-21

In Hinduism the oldest sacred scripture is the "Rig Veda," a collection of more than a thousand poems probably written before 1000 B.C. They are prayers and praises addressed to seventy-six objects and forces, largely representing nature-worship.



They came from a rather advanced civilization in the valley of the Indus River in western India. The sacred scriptures of Buddhism contain three sections: rules for the higher class of Buddhists, the discourses of Buddha, and explanations of Buddhist psychology and doctrine. Whenever they may be translated into English, they will be about four times the size of our Bible. Getting even slightly acquainted with the holy writings of other religions helps us to see how unique the Bible really is.

The Lesson is based on **THE LAW FOR PEOPLE TO LEARN** (Deut. 6:1)

This is the first verse in a chapter which can be described as a sermon on the First Commandment. It refers to the Decalogue in chapter 5 and prepares the reader to look closely at the unique conviction of the Hebrew faith in God's oneness

and his requirement that believers could love him with all their being. Thus the verse gathers up the obligation part of God's covenant with his people and suggests ever so concisely a major theme of the whole Old Testament. Especially from the days of the wanderings to the divided kingdom were the leaders trying to teach the people how to live by God's law. That law and their story is what the Old Testament is about.

THE RECORD OF EXPERIENCE (Luke 1:1-4)

No passage in the Bible is more explicit than this one in telling how a writer approached his work. It is a sort of preface and dedication. In these four verses we see a competent writer acknowledging the fact that although many accounts have been written about the life and work of Jesus, he intends to write an orderly and complete story. While Luke did not know Jesus in the flesh, he would follow the stories told by eyewitnesses and apostles. He had made a thorough study by comparing documents and interviewing people who were present when Jesus taught and acted. All this he wanted to do so that Theophilus might have a complete and dependable record of what he had heard. Perhaps Luke hoped to win him as a convert, or he may have been a Roman official who had a distorted view of Christianity.

Luke then was not an automa-

tion to be manipulated by the Spirit. He was a careful historian and competent writer who was guided by the Spirit to prepare a record of experience—that of Jesus and his first followers. This is the nature of the four Gospels; really the whole Bible is a record of experience.

THE GUIDE FOR RIGHT LIVING (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

This passage offers another way of describing the nature of the Bible. It is a God-given guide for right living. The older Paul was writing to the younger Timothy, probably the pastor of the church in Ephesus. Much of this second letter deals with the opposition which Timothy was facing and the worldly influences that were trying to undermine his work. Whatever might come, Timothy should stand by the truths he had learned because of his confidence in those who had taught him. Even as a child he had learned the sacred writings—that is, our Old Testament—"which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (TEV).

At this point Paul paused to express his convictions about the mature and purpose of Scripture. To say it was inspired by God meant that it was "God-breathed." That does not say how it was done, but it does say that God influenced the writers in their understanding and expression. Such writings are unique. They represent truth and author-

Louisiana College Names Sixth President

PINEVILLE, La. (BP) — Robert L. Lynn, vice president for administration at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU), Shawnee, has been elected the sixth president of Louisiana College here, effective July 1, according to Cal Hedges, who chaired the trustees' search committee.

Lynn, 43, succeeds Earl Guinn, who left in February, after 21 years as president of the 69-year-

old Louisiana Baptist school, to accept a professorship at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Academic dean E. Eugene Hall has served as interim administrator.

A native of Fox, Okla., Lynn was managing editor of All-Church Press, Fort Worth, when he joined the OBU staff in 1967 as assistant to the president. He has served on the All-Church Press staff for about 14 years and as a

reporter on the Shawnee News-Star for a year before that.

Lynn, OBU's interim president for nearly a year (Oct. 1970-Aug. 1971), was named vice president for administration in 1973, with responsibilities in fiscal and institutional planning, administrative affairs, public relations, denominational relations, information systems and student recruitment. He has also taught journalism and education courses.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

In A Disturbed Fellowship

By Bill Duncan
Acts 6:1-7

For many years I thought the church at Jerusalem in the first century of Christianity was perfect. I had heard sermons all my life that appealed to the local congregations to try and reproduce New Testament Christianity as was shown in Jerusalem. This was to eliminate all the problems experienced in the modern church.



Then one day I was reading the book of Acts and it began to dawn on me that the early church had problems. This shook my faith. But a further study revealed that the early churches were great because they handled their problem successfully under the guidance of God.

Any time you have a group of people who are supposed to work together, you will have problems.

ity; therefore, they can be used in teaching truth and refuting error. As they show up faulty living, they also furnish a guide for right living. Thus, following the Scriptures, the believer can be "fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good work" (TEV).

THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT (2 Pet. 1:20-21)

In verse 19 Peter refers to the message of the prophets as a light needed in dark times. Then he probably recalled how men often made the prophet's message mean whatever they wanted it to mean. Thus, he added in these two verses another description of the nature of Scripture. "No one can interpret any prophecy of Scripture by himself" (NEB). Why not? Because the prophet himself was not solely responsible for his writing; he was moved — impelled or carried along — by the Holy Spirit. Peter does not tell how this was done; he just affirms it. What he said about the message in the Old Testament we Christians have applied to the whole Bible; it is the work of the Spirit.

In a real sense, living is problem solving. Someone has said that a wise person can take a lemon and make lemonade out of it.

Baptists have a history of disturbed fellowships. All kinds of issues have arisen to create problems. Some have been handled wisely and some issues created divisions that never were solved, and resulting in new churches.

Churches usually discover their mission when they face their problems realistically. To stick your head in the sand and pretend the problem is not there will not cause the problem to go away. The issues must be faced in Christian love and wisdom. The right action should result in the church being strengthened and the ultimate extension of the church's witness.

Can the example of the church at Jerusalem, in another context, help us? The church at Jerusalem grew rapidly. From 120 to 3,000 and then to 5,000 was the growth pattern. The growing church in Jerusalem had successfully solved other serious problems, when "there arose a murmuring." A new atmosphere was created in the church when the Hellenistic Jews joined. The Hellenists were probably Greek-speaking Jews residing at Jerusalem.

The problem appears to have been partiality, through at the root there may have been pride or prejudice. There were few Gentiles mentioned in the church. There may have been just different levels of culture in Judaism that created the tension. The early church followed the Biblical instruction of help for the widows as well as other poor in the fellowship. Because of the rapid growth of the church, it became increasingly difficult for the apostles to oversee the equitable distribution of food to the needy persons. The complaint was that the Hellenistic widows were being neglected. The apostles may have neglected the group but not deliberately.

When the twelve saw the problem, they recognized their inadequacy. They decided to expand the leadership by involving other church members. In order to

get the best possible leadership, the apostles set forth high standards: good reputation, full of the Spirit, and wisdom. The apostles interpreted their responsibility only in terms of preaching and praying. The new church leaders would look after "serving the tables." This pleased the congregation and they chose seven men.

The qualifications set forth by the apostles for the men whom the congregation were to select manifested a depth of understanding. To deal with the ticklish matter of discrimination the seven had to be men of good reputation. The people's confidence in them had to be based upon the way they had conducted themselves previously. They were to be filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom. They must have the fruit of the Spirit which is love, and practical wisdom to deal with discrimination. (Continued on page 10)

Hattiesburg Pastor Tells Of 'Heart Ministry'

By Mini Ekas
Religion Editor
Hattiesburg American

Tracing his ministry back 58 years, the 70-year-old "errand boy" for Hattiesburg told how he got started in a ministry which led to the title of city pastor.

Garland McNinnis, who calls himself the errand boy for the jails and the people of this area, said that at the age of 12 he sold the Hattiesburg American at Camp Shelby. He used his earnings to buy candy and papers for sick soldiers.

When he attended high school, he was on the debate team and would go out in a field and talk to a stump for practice. He was licensed to preach in 1929 and ordained in 1937 at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Mr. McNinnis pastored Carterville Baptist Church in 1943-45 and established River Avenue Church, now Calvary, in 1945. During the first year of the latter church, he also founded a Storehouse for the Needy which was located at the church. This was operated for 20 years until ill health forced McNinnis to slow down.

Four years ago, Helping Hand

Mission was opened on South Main St., Hattiesburg, serving the same purpose as the storehouse. Mr. McNinnis pastored River Avenue until 1951 when Rev. Sam Waggoner, pastor of Petal-Harvey Church at that time, told him he "was just a city pastor."

With this in mind, Mr. McNinnis got 20 men and women to underwrite his salary and he began his full-time ministry as city pastor. His objective was to help anyone in need with clothing, food, furniture, funerals, weddings and other special services.

During his first year as city pastor, Mr. McNinnis organized Southside Church and served as its pastor for 19 1/2 years until 1971 when he suffered a heart attack.

Mr. McNinnis has worked with inmates in jails for 35 years as a chaplain. He has baptized five persons and has married three couples in the jails.

In his position as city pastor, he serves a "membership" of about 45,000 and ministers to physical and spiritual needs. His ministry deals mainly with the needy and the shut-ins. At the time of an interview with Mr. McNinnis about a month ago, he had conducted 1600 funerals, including his sister's, and 2000 weddings. This number

has increased since that time.

Asked if he plans to retire any time soon, Mr. McNinnis said he wanted "to keep on working as long as I can." He said that before stepping down he hoped to see a detention home for young people established so that youth would not have to go to jail, and a big storehouse for the needy organized for people to obtain clothing, food, furniture and have their bills paid when needed.

Mr. McNinnis said he didn't feel that anyone would take over the job of city pastor after him because he didn't feel anyone was willing to pay the price. He said that it was "heart ministry," and that he never questioned it since he felt that God had called him for it.

Mr. McNinnis is helped in his ministry by his wife, the former Hazel Cross of Petal. They have three sons; one is a pastor; one is a music teacher; and the youngest is attending high school.

As long as he gets around and makes his rounds to the jails and the homes of the needy and as long as he is able to write the Sunday School lesson and sermonettes for The American he said he'll continue to be the city's "errand boy."

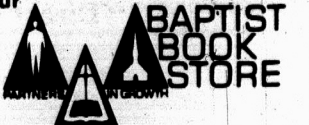
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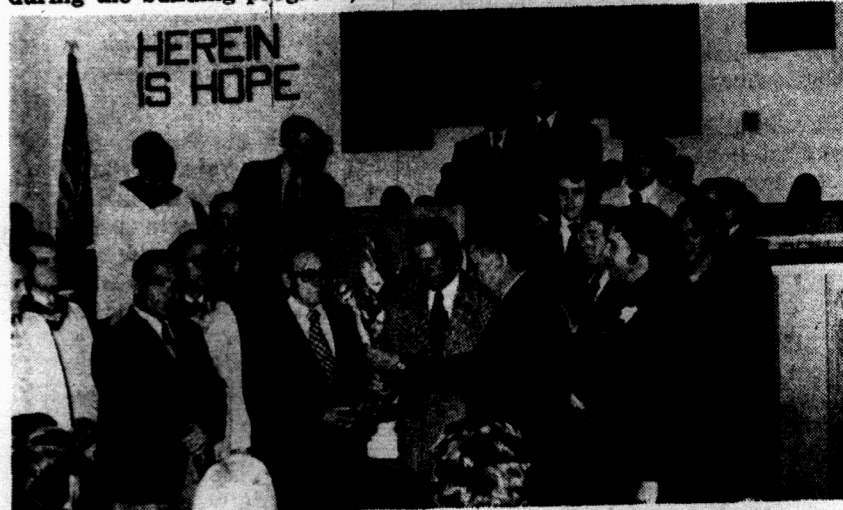


Mississippi Newsbriefs

Just For The Record



Immanuel, Hattiesburg recently burned notes on church facilities, leaving the church free of all indebtedness. Left to right: Claude Smith, Chairman, Building Committee; Henry T. Jones, member of the committee and is now senior deacon at 93; Dr. R. Elmer Nielsen, pastor during the building program, and Rev. S. B. Boyett, present pastor.



Antioch Church, Columbus, had a noteburning ceremony recently signifying paying off the debt on their church building. In the picture are Rev. Banks Hardy, Belden, pastor during the building of the church; R. E. Forrester, chairman of deacons during that time; Alton J. Forrester, chairman, Building Committee and construction foreman; Rev. Steve N. Brown, pastor; and deacons present for this event.

Macedonia Begins Family Ministry

Macedonia Church, Route 5, Hattiesburg, announces that their family ministries program began Monday, May 28. This ministry is under the direction of Rev. David Sapp.

There will be two Mother's Day Out times each week. Mothers can bring their children to the church, and either attend the neighborhood Bible Study or have a morning "off."

Each Wednesday morning is a

Kid's Day of Experiences. This will include trips to the library, bakery, police station, and other points of special interest to children.

Weekday evenings offer a time of fun and games and Bible study to the teen agers.

Friday night is Family Night. There will be a Young Married's Night once a month, and a family movie every four weeks.

Rev. Dick Onarecker and the members of Macedonia Church expect this to be an active ministry to their community as well as to their church. For further information call 582-9487.

Homecoming Slated By Rehobeth Church In Rankin County

Homecoming at Rehobeth Baptist Church Rankin Assoc. will be Sunday June 8th. Morning and afternoon services will be old time singing with David Patrick as master of ceremonies. Dinner will be served at the noon hour. All former pastors, members and friends are invited. The offering will go for the upkeep of the cemetery.

Revival Dates

New Haven, Terry: June 8-13; regular services Sunday; during week at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Wiley Reid, former pastor, evangelist; James D. Rasberry, singer; Mrs. J. H. Ray, Sr., pianist; Mrs. James D. Rasberry, organist; Rev. Ira C. Griffin, pastor.

First, Waynesboro, June 15-20; Buddy Mathis, Pascagoula, evangelist; Randy Von Kanel, Friendship, Grand Bay, Alabama in charge of music; Brooks Barkley, pastor.

Philadelphia (Lincoln County) Homecoming, June 15, and revival, June 15-20; Bob Harvey, evangelist; Edd Alexander pastor. Church located 15 miles west of Brookhaven on highway 550.

Dry Creek Church (Rankin): June 8 - 13; Rev. Vance Dyess, pastor, Trinity Church (Rankin) evangelist; Ernest Wells, Jr., First Church, Brandon, singer; Sunday services at regular time, weekday services, 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Marion Gray, pastor.

Trinity, Pearl (Rankin): June 15-20; Rev. Marcus Alexander, pastor of Flowood Church, evangelist; Doug Polk of Flowood, song leader; Rev. Vance H. Dyess, pastor; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.; weekdays at 7:30 p.m.

North Carrollton Calls W. R. Patten

Rev. William R. Patten has accepted the pastorate of North Carrollton Church. Since 1972 he has been pastor of the Schlatter Church.

From Evergreen, Alabama, he graduated from Clarke College, Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Mo., and New Orleans Seminary.



During school years he was pastor in Missouri, Louisiana, and Alabama.

In the summer of 1974, he and his wife participated in excavations at Tel-Aphek-Antipatris in Israel, conducted by the Department of Archaeology of New Orleans Seminary.

Mrs. Patten, the former Margaret Ingram of Winona, is a graduate of Clarke College. She has served as secretary to deans of Clarke and Southwest Baptist College, and to the Dean of Theology at New Orleans Seminary. She plays the piano and organ and has been soloist with her church choir.

North Carrollton welcomed the Pattens with an Open House.

The former pastor at North Carrollton, Rev. Robert Hutcherson, was called into the military chaplaincy in November, 1974, and is now stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey.



Mt. Pleasant Church, Gloster, has called Gary Bowlin native of Amite County, as pastor. He is married to the former Norma Benton of McComb, and they have one daughter, Julie, age 4. He is presently a senior at New Orleans Seminary.



SESQUICENTENNIAL STUDENTS—These students will be serving on various standing committees for the Sesquicentennial celebration planned at Mississippi College during the 1975-76 school year. They will be helping to map out plans for the celebration of 125 years as a Baptist institution, 150 years as an educational institution, and the 200th birthday of the nation. Front, left to right, are Eddie Graves, Peggy McDaniel, and Ralph Michael. Back, left to right, are Sandy Thach, Rick Axtell, Alan Hawkins, and Richard Hurt. (M.C. Photo by Norman H. Gough)



Ten Couples Married 50 Years

On Mother's Day the Gillsburg Baptist Church honored a very special group of people; ten couples, who, within a four year period, have celebrated 50 years of married life. This group represents a total of 515 years of marriage. The message, delivered by the pastor, Rev. A. Homer, Jr., at the morning worship hour was inspired by this special group and entitled: "Until Death Do Us Part." A covered dish luncheon was enjoyed by this group and their families. When asked by their pastor what one word of advice they could give to younger married people and those planning on being married, they all advised taking Christ into their marriage relationship for a sure guarantee of a productive and successful and God-honoring marriage and home.

Pictured from left to right, including the number of years married, are: back row: Mr. & Mrs. Jim Carter, 50; Mr. & Mrs. Poly Stewart, Sr., 52; Mr. & Mrs. Luther Reynolds, 54; Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Williams, 53; Mr. & Mrs. Ulysses McMillan, 50; Mr. & Mrs. Jim Newman, 50; front row: Mr. & Mrs. Jessie Reynolds, 50 (members of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church); Mr. & Mrs. Benton McMillan, 52; Mr. & Mrs. Homer Newman, 53; and Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Rainwater, 51 years.

What To Do With Your Old Baptist Hymnals

By Ginger Morris Caughman

The new Baptist hymnals are off the presses and are available in our Baptist Book Stores.

William J. Reynolds, chief editor of the new hymnal says, "This 1975 edition of Baptist Hymnal is a treasure-house of Christian song."

Dr. Harry Eskew, professor of music history at the New Orleans Seminary said, "Sixty-eight men and women in Southern Baptist life helped in compiling this new hymnal." Mississippi members on the hymnal committee were Dan Hall, director, Church Music Department, MBCB, and Larry Black, minister of music, First Church, Jackson.

Many churches will be replacing old hymnals with the new Baptist Hymnal, 1975. The question, "What can we do with all the old hymnals?" will be asked many times.

To provide answers in your church, read this article, clip and

save it, and consider the suggestions given.

USES FOR OLD HYMNALS:

—Keep enough old hymnals that are in good condition in the music library of the choir room. Use the old hymnals for choir specials, instrumentals, quarter-ets, duets, and solos.

—Process three copies in your church library.

—Put one to three copies in the Church History collection.

—Save hymnals in a neat stack in music room to use on church retreats.

—Give old hymnals to a church that needs additional hymnals and cannot buy the new ones yet.

—Give them to mission centers, camps, and assembly grounds.

—Give them to your associational office to be distributed to mission churches or centers.

—Give copies to church pianist and organist to keep at home.

—Let people who want one,

take old hymnals home. Encourage members to leave the new hymnals in the church building.

USES FOR OLD HYMNALS IN POOR CONDITION:

All of the hymnals are used. But you probably have some in closets, piano benches, or choir rooms that are in poor condition: spines are torn off or pages are missing. Use these hymnals:

—Give to children's leaders to cut up and use with children's choirs, Sunday School and Church Training groups.

—For example, children can make booklets of their favorite hymns from the old hymnals.

—Let church members have an old hymnal to decoupage favorite hymns for gifts. To decoupage a hymn: cut the page from the old hymnal; burn the edges; glue onto a board (which has been painted or stained); varnish; sand, repeat layers of varnish until the desired finish is obtained.

In A Disturbed - - -

(Continued from page 9)

ination.

The actual selection of the seven men is reported in verses 5 and 6. (1) They were chosen by the people. (2) Their names are all Greek, suggesting that all were Hellenists (the group from which the complaint came). (3) The listing of Stephen's name and Philip's name showed the prominence of these men.

The apostles, after prayer "laid their hands upon them." The imposition of hands was of Old Testament significance, to show a commissioning and to express identification.

The seven are frequently referred to as the first deacons. Their selection, ordination and ministry does establish a noble precedent. The church traditionally has found in these verses the beginning of the office of deacon.

The word ministry is based upon the idea of service. The Greek word for deacon is based upon the same word meaning to serve.

The ministry of the seven at the table, however, is not reported. The church's action appears to have solved the problem.

The result mentioned in the Bible passage was that the word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly, and a great number of priests embraced the gospel. This reflects the growing influence of the Christian community.

The church has risen to the challenge of a painful problem. The result was the establishment of two powerful leaders and the winning of many more converts. The church continued to grow. Partiality was clearly condemned in the church, and a new surge of power was the result.

Frequently problems that confront the Christian fellowship may be solved by the appointment of good men, but the larger body must maintain an interest in their ministry. It is easy to express confidence in someone else to solve a problem. An expression of love is most effective when it clearly represents God's people working together.

"Thank you, God, for the problem solvers and the problems, and help me not be a problem maker," is my prayer. A disturbed fellowship is a hard church to serve. The spirit of love can guide a church to solve its problems through the efforts of good men.



Mrs. Fudge

Zola Fudge Honored On 74th Birthday

The members of Yellow Leaf Baptist Church, Lafayette Association, declared May 11 as Zola Fudge day for her outstanding Christian service. She has been a teacher at Yellow Leaf for fifty six years and is teaching the older ladies Sunday School Class now.

Mrs. Fudge moved her church letter to Yellow Leaf in 1918 after moving into the community. It was in this community that she realized the fulfillment of her desire to be a missionary.

Sunday School was reorganized and she taught the Young People's Class. Since that time, she has taught in Sunday School and Training Union every year. In 1937 when W.M.U. was organized, she became a charter member. She has held various offices of leadership in this organization and worked with Sunbeams and G.A.'s for many years.

Although she could not drive and had a very limited income, she organized a class for Sunbeams and G.A.'s which met at her home every week. The children would ride the school bus to her house.

Mrs. Fudge helped start Bible School in the early 1940's and still teaches every year. She attends all church functions and was even helping clean the cemetery a few days before her birthday.

The church presented her an orchid and a bronze plaque. Then everyone who had been taught by Zola was asked to stand. Over ninety five per cent of the people stood to honor her.

Off The Record

A famous artist owed money to an army of creditors and made little effort to pay them off. One day an admirer came to his rescue with a substantial loan.

"Sir," said the artist, "I shall be forever in your debt." And he was. —The Machinist.

Victor Borge was asked, "Do you fool around with the piano off-stage as well as on it?"

"I guess you could say I do. I once bet a friend I could tell the time by my piano. I played a rousing Sousa march in my hotel room. The occupant of the room next door banged on the wall and shouted angrily: 'Stop that noise! Don't you know it's one-thirty in the morning?'" —Family Weekly.

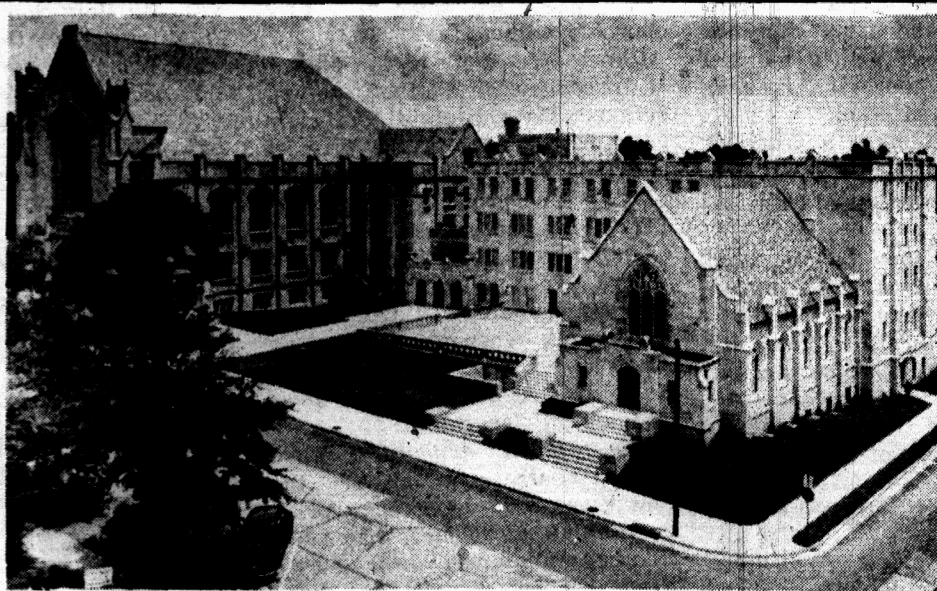
There were only two judges in the small town, and they both had been arrested for speeding, so they decided to try each other. The first judge sat in the judge's chair and asked, "How do you plead?" "Guilty," replied the second judge. "The court fines you five dollars," said the first judge. Then they changed places and the second judge said, "These cases are becoming too common —I'm giving you a \$20 fine and one week in jail." —Funny Funny World.

A man in a rural county down south was campaigning for a seat in the Senate. One rainy, miserable evening, there was a knock on the door. A man he had never seen before stood outside, soaking wet. "I need help," the man said. "My car is stalled down the road. Will you help me?"

"Sure," said the candidate. When they reached the disabled car, the owner got in, turned the key and the car started immediately.

"There was nothing wrong with your car," the would-be senator said.

"I know. I also know that this state needs a good man up there in Washington," he explained. "I just wanted to know if you were the kind of man I could vote for. Now I know." —From Inklings reprinted in Brief Cases.



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